REPORT

ON THE

CENSUS OF BENGAL,

1881.

J. A. BOURDILLON

OF THE BENGAL CIVIL SERVICE,

Inspector-General of Registration, Bengal.

VOL. I.

Calcutta:

PRINTED AT THE BENGAL SECRETARIAT PRESS.

1883.

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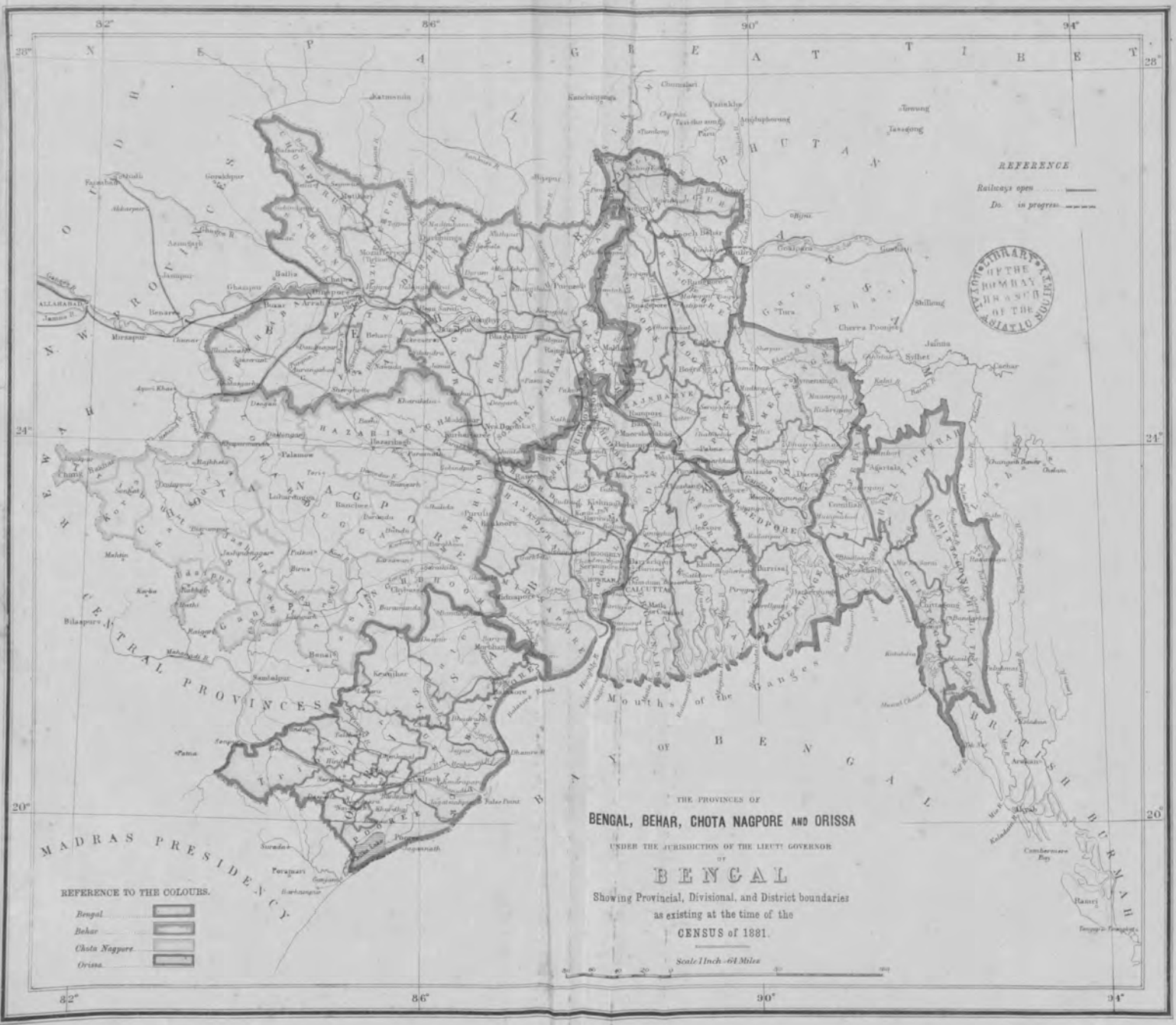
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CENTRAL PROVINCES
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REFERENCE TO THE COLOURS.
Bengal
Behar
Chota Nagpore
Orissa
THE PROVINCES OF
BENGAL, BEHAR, CHOTA NAGPORE AND ORISSA
UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE LIEUT! GOVERNOR
OF
BENGAL
Showing Provincial, Divisional, and District boundaries
as existing at the time of the
CENSUS of 1881.
Scale 1 Inch = 64 Miles
Lithotyped at the Surveyor General's Office, Calcutta, July 1881.

CENSUS OF BENGAL, 1881.

LIST OF THE DISTRICTS, DIVISIONS, AND PROVINCES OF LOWER BENGAL.

- **BENGAL.**
  - **Burdwan Division.**
    - Burdwan.
    - Bankoorah.
    - Beerbhoom.
    - Midnapore.
    - Hooghly.
    - Howrah.
  - **Presidency Division.**
    - 24-Parganahs.
    - Suburbs.
    - Calcutta.
    - Nuddea.
    - Jessore.
    - Khulna.
    - Moorshedabad.
  - **Rajshahye Division.**
    - Dinagepore.
    - Rajshahye.
    - Rungpore.
    - Bogra.
    - Pubna.
    - Darjeeling.
    - Julpigoree.
  - **Dacca Division.**
    - Dacca.
    - Furreedpore
    - Backergunje.
    - Mymensingh.
  - **Chittagong Division.**
    - Chittagong.
    - Noakholly.
    - Tipperah.
    - Cittagong Hill Tracts.
- **BEHAR.**
  - **Patna Division.**
    - Patna.
    - Gya.
    - Shahabad.
    - Mozufferpore.
    - Durbhunga.
    - Sarun.
    - Chumparun.
  - **Bhaugulpore Division.**
    - Monghyr.
    - Bhaugulpore.
    - Purneah.
    - Maldah.
    - *Sonthal Parganahs.*
- **ORISSA.**
  - **Orissa Division.**
    - Cuttack.
    - Pooree.
    - Balasore.
    - Angul.
    - Banki.
- **CHOTA NAGPORE.**
  - **Chota Nagpore Division.**
    - Hazaribagh.
    - Lohardugga.
    - Singhbhoom.
    - Manbhoom.
- **FEUDATORY STATES.**
  - Cooch Behar.
  - Hill Tipperah.
  - Tributary States, Orissa.
  - Do. Chota-Nagpore.

REPORT

ON THE

CENSUS OF BENGAL,

1881.

116479

BY

J. A. BOURDILLON,

OF THE BENGAL CIVIL SERVICE,

Inspector-General of Registration, Bengal.

VOL. I.

Calcutta:

PRINTED AT THE BENGAL SECRETARIAT PRESS.

1883.

No. 1733

From J. A BOURDILLON, Esq.,

Deputy Superintendent of Census Operations, Bengal (on leave).

To the SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of BENGAL,

Financial Department.

Dated Calcutta, the 30th April 1883.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward herewith my Report on the Census of Bengal, taken on the 17th February 1881, which I was appointed to superintend by Government letter No. 5, dated the 7th January 1880.

2. The report consists of four parts, viz. the Report itself and three Appendices, lettered A, B, and C respectively. The text of the Report and Appendix A, which is composed of miscellaneous papers, are contained in Volume I. Appendix B embraces the twenty-one statistical tables prescribed by the Government of India, and forms Volume II; while Volume III, which is identical with Appendix C, contains ten other statements prescribed by the Government of Bengal and the Census Commissioner.

3. As Government is aware, the clerks engaged in the census operations have all been discharged, except the three who are to be kept on permanently. The village tables have been forwarded to the various district officers, and the manuscript final forms have been arranged in the census record-room attached to the Office of the Inspector-General of Registration. The accounts have been closed, and the permanent advance refunded to the Treasury. Lastly, I myself am about to take leave to Europe.

4. Before finally severing, however, my connection with an undertaking which has had my exclusive attention for nearly two and a half years, I wish to place on record my acknowledgments of the services rendered by those gentlemen who were deputed to assist me in this lengthy task. To Mr. E. N. Baker, C S., who was the Branch Superintendent of Census at Dinapore, my most cordial thanks are due for the ability, energy, untiring industry, and willing assistance he displayed in a position of great importance and responsibility: Baboo Komodonath Mookerjea, who was entrusted with the superintendence of the Office at Cuttack, was not less indefatigable and intelligent: of the three Branch Superintendents in Calcutta with whom I was for many months in constant daily communication, viz. Baboos Hari Mohan Sen and Taran Churn Sarkar, Deputy Magistrates, and Baboo Monomoto Nath Ghose, now an Extra Assistant Commissioner in Assam, I can only say that no better assistants could have been found, that they devoted themselves entirely to the work and gave most complete satisfaction.

5. To Mr. E. M. Lewis, Superintendent of Government Printing, Bengal, I owe special thanks for the cordial assistance which he has given me throughout, often at great personal inconvenience, in the printing of the millions of forms required both for the enumeration itself and for the compilation of the returns; and he has now placed me under a further obligation by passing this report and its statements through the Press with great accuracy and despatch.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. A. BOURDILLON.

Deputy Supdt. of Census Operations, Bengal (on leave).

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REPORT

ON THE

CENSUS OF BENGAL, 1881.

PART I.

CHAPTERS I TO III.—THE TAKING OF THE CENSUS.

REPORT

ON THE

CENSUS OF BENGAL, 1881.

Part I.

CHAPTER I.

THE PRELIMINARY OPERATIONS AND THE ACTUAL ENUMERATION.

Preliminary.

THE first general census of Bengal was taken in the beginning of the year 1872, accidental circumstances having occasioned its postponement for one year from the date originally fixed, which would have made it coincide with the year determined upon for the general census of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and its dependencies. Before five years had elapsed Government began to look forward to the next enumeration, which, for the reasons just stated, was fixed for the year 1881; and in July 1877 a committee was appointed under the orders of the Government of India to consider the suggestions for a general census of India in 1881. This committee met in Calcutta in the winter of 1877, and on the 29th of January 1878 they submitted a full report to Government, discussing the suggestions that had been made and embodying their own recommendations. The correspondence between the Supreme Government and Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to which the details of their scheme gave rise, was not concluded till the end of March 1880; but in the meanwhile, as soon as it was known that a general census would be taken during the winter of 1880-81, the different local Governments commenced to make their own arrangements for the great undertaking.

General instructions of Government.

2. In the provinces under the jurisdiction of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal operations commenced with the issue of a circular, No. 4 of the 6th February 1880, which was addressed to all Commissioners, and bore the signature of Mr. A. Mackenzie, Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Financial Department. It sketched clearly the general outlines of the scheme upon which the census was to be taken; and although the arrangements as finally sanctioned differred from these in several points of detail, it was, in fact, the basis upon which the whole great edifice was erected. For this reason the circular is reproduced below, and a perusal of it will show distinctly what the general plan of the census was.

Circular No. 4, dated Calcutta, the 6th February 1880.

From—A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Finl. Dept.,
To—All Commissioners.

I AM directed to inform you that it has now been decided to take a general census of India in the early part of February 1881. The census is to be taken everywhere on the same day, save in a few exceptional tracts, regarding which special instructions will be given. It is thus essential that all the preliminary arrangements should be very carefully made, and that every district officer should form a clear conception of the task before him, and have all the necessary machinery in complete working order at the earliest possible date. There can be no better test of administrative ability than the manner in which a district officer carries through an operation of this kind.

2. The Government of India will probably appoint an Imperial Commissioner to supervise generally the arrangements in the different provinces. Meantime the Inspector-General of Registration has been appointed *ex-officio* Deputy Superintendent of Census Operations in Bengal, and all communications in connection with this matter should be addressed to him. He will practically act as an Under-Secretary to Government in respect of such correspondence. Circulars and orders issuing from his Office must therefore be taken to be the orders of Government, and must meet with prompt and careful attention.

3. Each district officer is already in possession of Mr. Beverley's Report on the Census of 1871, and of the letter of the Government of India No. 2, dated 20th February 1878, enclosing the report of the committee appointed to consider the arrangements for the coming census in 1881. These reports should be carefully studied; for whatever alterations may, under the orders of the Government of India, be ultimately made in detail, they show very clearly the difficulties that have to be met and the nature of the work that has to be done.

4. It has been practically decided to follow the recommendations of the committee in paragraph 11 of their report, and to prepare, shortly before the day fixed for the actual synchronous census, a preliminary record of entries in the enumerator's schedules; that is to say, the enumerators will, as a general thing, before the census night carefully fill in the schedules with all the information required in them, confining their work on the night of the census to checking and correcting these schedules, so as to make them correspond with the facts as then found. (It is obvious that this preliminary record cannot be made in respect of the great floating population on the rivers of Bengal, or in respect of travellers. One of the points, therefore, to which special attention will have to be given hereafter is the means of securing correct synchronous registration in those cases where the preliminary record cannot be made. The point is merely noticed here in passing.)

5. In order to the correct preparation of preliminary record, it is above all things necessary that the agency to be employed should be carefully organised beforehand, and that its work should be so distributed locally as to allow no part of the district population to escape enumeration. The committee, in paragraphs 34 and 45 of their report, lay much stress on the accurate determination of boundaries and areas, remarking that this was a point in which the Bengal arrangements in 1871 were very defective. Much has been done since that year to remove conflicts and anomalies of jurisdiction; and it is believed that no practical difficulty should now be felt in dividing each district into circles which shall embrace the whole of the district area and no more. This is an operation which must be taken in hand at once.

6. Nearly every district has, it is understood, been supplied by the Boundary Commissioner with maps on the scale of one mile to the inch. Complete lists of the survey villages included in all thannahs of the districts named on the margin have been prepared, and are now either printed, in the press, or nearly ready for issue. In each of these districts the district officer should at once mark off each thannah into convenient circles, each circle comprising, as far as possible, a definite number of survey mouzahs, so that no doubt may exist as to the precise boundaries of the circle. He should then place each such circle in charge of some member of his district staff, utilising for this purpose Assistant and Deputy Collectors, Sub-Deputy Collectors, Canoongoes, Inspectors of Police, and Sub-Inspectors of Police, Rural Sub-Registrars, and any other official or quasi-official agency at his disposal. Each circle officer should be furnished with a tracing of the district map showing his circle and the neighbouring villages, and with extracts from the village lists, and he should be directed to check carefully, *upon the ground*, the list of villages within his circle, entering all new villages and hamlets found, including those cases where groups of houses surveyed as part of an existing village have since separately grown to be villages or tolahs with distinct names of their own, referring all such new villages and all distinct groups of houses to the survey mouzahs within which they are situated, noting where old villages have disappeared, entering carefully local names where these differ from the survey names, and, generally, taking care to produce a complete record of the state of things as now existing. A record should also be made of all points within the circle where boats are habitually moored, and of all places, not being houses, where travellers ordinarily seek shelter. Special note should be made of any inhabited portions of a circle liable to change from river action so as to require fresh local enquiry after the rains.

1.—*Printed.*

Patna, Dacca, Bhaugulpore, Durbhunga, Mozufferpore, Backergunge, Sarun, Chumparun, Monghyr, Balasore, Furreedpore, Nuddea, Jessore, 24-Pergunnahs, Gya, Shahabad, Purneah.

2.—*In the Press.*

Rajshahye, Hooghly, Burdwan, Bankoorah, Beerbhoom, Moorshedabad, Dinagepore, Maldah, Rungpore, Bogra, Pubna, Mymensing, Noakholly, Tipperah, Manbhoom, Julpigoree, and Deoghur.

3.—*Nearly ready.*

Howrah.

7. From these corrected lists village registers will eventually have to be prepared in forms that will be prescribed hereafter. It is essential, however, that every village, or separate group of houses representing a hamlet, and having a name of its own, should have a distinct number. The survey numbers of *mouzahs* must of course be retained; but where new villages have sprung up within a mouzah, or where more than one (residential) village or hamlet have been surveyed together, separate sub-numbers must be given to each. Every possible source of information calculated to throw light on the subject should be used by the district officers to check the village lists, especially the land registration and license-tax records.

8. The number of circles in each district will vary with the size of the thannahs and the agency available. The general principle to be followed should be by subdividing the work as much as possible to ensure close local investigation and accuracy in the final lists. In

some cases it may be possible to make the circles so small that eventually the circle officer may become the chief supervisor of the enumerators working within his circle. But where this is not possible, the next duty of the circle officer will be to submit for the approval of the district officer a plan for the subdivision of his circle into supervisors' sub-circles.* The sub-circles will next have to be divided into convenient enumerator's blocks. The agency to be employed as supervisors and enumerators will be, as far as may be possible, unpaid. The sooner these men are selected the better. Circle officers should therefore be instructed, while making their local enquiries, to ascertain what persons are qualified and willing to act as supervisors and enumerators, and should submit the names of such persons to the district officer. Instruction will be given by the Deputy Superintendent of Census hereafter as to the work to be done by them, the numbering of houses, &c., within the blocks, and other matters which will have to be attended to as the time of the census draws near. The object of the present circular is merely to start the work in each district.

* Each enumerator will eventually have to deal with from 60 to 100 houses. Each supervisor should ordinarily be able to look after the preparation of the preliminary records of 10 enumerators (extra supervisors being appointed to assist on the actual day of the census).

9. The foregoing instructions refer specially to rural tracts. In municipalities no difficulties should be experienced in respect of either local areas or agency. Each municipality should, however, be instructed to prepare its *plan* of operations as soon as possible. The villages composing unions may for the present be treated as rural villages; but of course any special agency available in such should be fully utilised.

10. Even in districts where the thannah lists are incomplete the thannah boundaries are locally known, and village lists, more or less accurate, are in existence. The district officers of these districts must follow, as far as possible, the procedure laid down above.

11. In some districts there are tracts in which synchronous enumeration on a single day will be impossible. These tracts are recognised to be—

Parts of Chota Nagpore.
Do. of Julpigoree.
Do. of Darjeeling.
The Chittagong Hill Tracts.

In the first three instances the local area of these tracts should be divided off into circles, sub-circles, and blocks, and treated in the same way as the rest of the country. Care must be taken that the local limits of these tracts are properly determined. In the Chittagong Hills special arrangements will be necessary, suited to local circumstances.

12. Similarly, in the Orissa and Chota Nagpore Tributary States, and in Hill Tipperah, the census will not probably be done on one day, and will have to be managed through the chiefs; but no time should now be lost in instructing the chiefs how to proceed. They should be induced to follow, as far as possible in each case, the same procedure as that adopted by the officers in charge of districts.

13. The Lieutenant-Governor has in this circular (of which a copy has been sent direct to each district officer) confined himself to general instructions, in order not to anticipate any detailed orders which the Imperial Commissioner may wish to issue. The work must, however, be started *at once* in every part of the country; and each district officer is requested to submit direct to the Deputy Superintendent of Census within four weeks of the receipt of this circular a full and detailed report showing—

(1) The maps and village lists available for his district.
(2) His plans for subdividing the local area and testing the village lists of his district.
(3) The number of circles he intends to create in each thannah, and the agency that will have charge of these circles.

Fortnightly reports of progress made should follow regularly on the 15th and 30th of each succeeding month.

A copy of each of these reports should be sent by the district officer to his Commissioner.

Early operations in Calcutta.

3. Upon the 1st March 1880 I arrived in Calcutta from Europe to take up the superintendence of the census, and at once commenced to make the preliminary arrangements. Between the date of my arrival and the 6th February Mr. Page, who had been Officiating Inspector-General of Registration, had made enquiries about paper, printing, &c.; but as he was not to be charged with the final superintendence of the census, he very properly avoided taking any steps which would definitely bind the hands of his successor.

4. In Calcutta during the summer and rainy months I was fully employed in arranging for the supply of paper for the enumerators' schedules, for their translation, and subsequent printing in seven different characters, and for their despatch to each district when ready. The printing of the schedules commenced in July 1880. By the middle of September the first great batch of them was printed off, and they would have been distributed at once but for the delay which was experienced in obtaining the final orders of the Government of India upon the instructions to enumerators, which, with a specimen schedule, were to form a part of each schedule book.

5. The distribution of the schedules commenced in the last week of November, and by dint of incessant exertions the great bulk of them were packed and despatched by the Superintendent of Stationery before the 15th of January. Urgent applications for more forms were, however, received up till the very eve of the census day, the 17th February 1881, and the tension up to the last moment was very great.

6. The schedules were printed on both sides of a half sheet of "royal" paper from the Bally Mills, and were sewn together into books each containing 10 schedules or 20 pages; each book contained a specimen page properly filled up, on the back of which were printed the "Instructions to Enumerators," and the whole was enclosed in a brown paper wrapper with a docket on its outer fold. A copy of the instructions and of the specimen page will be found in Appendix A.

Number of forms.

7. Some idea of the enormous mass of papers used, and of the labour of printing, packing, and despatching them, may be gathered from the following figures:—

No. A.—Statement showing the Number and Description of the larger Forms printed for the actual Census Enumeration.

Description.	Number of Forms.	
Ordinary Enumerators' Schedules—		
In English	30,000	
„ Bengali	5,520,000	
„ Nagri	347,500	
„ Kaithi	2,505,000	
„ Urdu	250,000	
„ Uriya	770,000	
„ Nepali-Hindi	12,000	
Total Land Schedules		9,434,500
Schedules for the Boat Population—		
In Bengali	114,000	
„ Kaithi	18,000	
„ Uriya	125,000	
Total Boat Schedules		257,000
Schedules for the sea-going population (in English)	2,000	
Schedules for the Railway population (ditto)	29,000	
Special schedules for Chittagong Hill Tracts	5,000	
Ditto for Hill Tipperah	4,150	
Boat schedules for the Sunderbuns	12,500	
Total Schedules		9,744,150
Boat Tickets—		
In Bengali	350,000	
„ Kaithi	65,000	
„ Uriya	44,000	
For the Sunderbuns	25,000	
Total Boat Tickets ...	484,000	
		484,000
Railway Passengers' Check Tickets		20,000
Appointment Certificates for Enumerators—		
In Bengali	207,000	
„ Nagri	9,000	
„ Kaithi	77,000	
„ Uriya	26,000	
Total Enumerators' Perwannahs		319,000
Village Register, Forms A and B		22,000
TOTAL, ALL FORMS		10,589,150

Preparation of village lists.

8. Meanwhile district officers were busily employed making their preliminary arrangements. The Government circular quoted above directed that the whole country should be parcelled out into enumerators' *blocks*, which again were to be grouped together under a supervisor as his *circle*; while two or more circles were placed under a superintendent as his *charge*. Before these arrangements could be finally carried out, however, it was necessary that the ground should be gone over very carefully, so as to prevent on the one hand the omission, and on the other hand the reiterated enumeration, of any villages or houses. Under

the orders of Government the Boundary Commissioner's lists of survey villages in each thannah were taken as the basis of this examination of area, and all district officers were directed to prepare for each thannah in their districts two lists—one showing the survey villages (*mouzah*), and the other the inhabited villages (*gram* or *ganw*) within it. These lists were then carefully compared with each other, discrepancies were reconciled by local enquiry, and when this had been done two registers were written out for every thannah, Register A giving the survey, and Register B the inhabited, villages, with cross references in each to the other, so that the position of a village might be traced in either. Copies of these registers, and of the circular which prescribed them, will be found in Appendix A.

Attended with great difficulty.

9. The task of preparing these registers was one of the most arduous in the whole course of the census operations, and almost every district officer speaks in the strongest terms of the difficulties he encountered. The villages in the Boundary Commissioner's list are survey areas, sometimes inhabited and sometimes without inhabitants, and each is treated as a separate unit, irrespective of size or any other quality, because it is so treated in the lists of villages for the collection of the land revenue. The inhabited village, besides being generally of much later formation, is therefore not at all a necessary incident of the territorial village; and while on the one hand the latter may contain within its boundaries several distinct villages all with different names and none of them that of the survey village, in other cases there may be in the neighbourhood of a survey village which is itself uninhabited several other villages of the same name. Moreover, the minuteness with which these enquiries were conducted brought to light innumerable irregularities of boundary. Not only were village boundaries sometimes found to be wrong, but even those which, for administrative purposes, were accepted as the correct boundaries of thannahs and districts were discovered not to be in accordance with the official records of the Survey Department. Each such discovery gave rise to much correspondence, and the readjustments which they caused in some districts were very considerable. But the energy and perseverance of district officers in most cases overcame these difficulties, and with a few exceptions the registers have been carefully prepared, furnishing Government with an invaluable record, not only of the survey areas and of the residential villages in every district, but of the exact position of each. Laborious as the task was, the utility of Register B (that for inhabited villages), when once completed, was unspeakable. It formed the basis of all the subsequent work, and the whole of the village statistics are arranged according to it.

Appointment of census officers.

10. As soon as these village registers had been prepared district officers were in a position to settle decisively into what charges, circles, and blocks their districts should be divided, and it became their duty to appoint officers to have charge of each. But for the willing co-operation which was almost everywhere rendered gratuitously by the more intelligent inhabitants of the districts, the charge to Government for paid enumerators would have been a very heavy one. As it happened, the number of paid census officers was extremely small; and in point of fact it may be said that enumerators were paid only where they were imported from a distance owing to the incapacity of the inhabitants, and that supervisors were paid only where their service was of a special character, such as the enumeration of the boat population on big rivers and the like. In the mofussil the enumerators were chiefly village officials, such as the patwari, or else intelligent villagers of influence and position; in the towns a better class of men was available. Supervisors, as a rule, were Government servants, the upper ranks of the police being utilised a good deal for this work, or independent gentlemen of position and intelligence. In the following statement full details are given for each district, showing the numbers of supervisors and enumerators, and dividing them into the two classes of paid and unpaid. Paid supervisors were a necessity in Calcutta and the Suburbs, as it was found impossible to secure a sufficient number of men who would do this work gratuitously. In the districts of the Chota Nagpore Division the backward state of education compelled the importation of paid supervisors and enumerators from outside, and for the rest the paid officials were mostly men employed on boat or road enumeration. In the Feudatory States the various chiefs made their own arrangements, and

therefore no figures for those tracts are to be found in this table. It should also be stated that in several cases supervisors and enumerators received back their *bonâ fide* expenses, but they have not been treated for that reason as *paid* officials.

No. B.—Statement showing the Numbers of the Enumerating and Supervising Agency employed in taking the Census.

Districts.	Paid.		Unpaid.	
	Supervisors.	Enumerators.	Supervisors.	Enumerators.
Burdwan	.....	.....	276	2,413
Bankoorah	.....	.....	536	4,724
Beerbhoom	.....	.....	217	4,303
Midnapore	.....	.....	1,696	6,504
Hooghly	.....	.....	357	3,608
Howrah	.....	.....	231	2,209
TOTAL OF THE BURDWAN DIVISION ...	.....	.....	3,313	23,581
24-Pergunnahs	.....	.....	623	5,240
Suburbs	.....	498	47	.....
Calcutta	18	334	.....	.....
Nuddea	.....	.....	627	6,130
Jessore	1	.....	85	9,278
Moorshedabad	.....	.....	252	4,249
TOTAL OF THE PRESIDENCY DIVISION ...	19	832	1,634	24,897
Dinagepore	1	.....	449	4,705
Rajshahye	.....	.....	380	4,204
Rungpore	.....	.....	269	7,527
Bogra	.....	.....	83	3,484
Pubna	1	.....	234	2,923
Darjeeling	.....	.....	32	383
Julpigoree	.....	9	136	1,614
TOTAL OF THE RAJSHAHYE DIVISION ...	2	9	1,583	24,440
Dacca	.....	2	516	5,191
Furreedpore	.....	.....	491	6,309
Backergunge	.....	35	520	4,425
Mymensingh	2	1	195	7,229
TOTAL OF THE DACCA DIVISION ...	2	38	1,752	23,154
Chittagong	.....	.....	330	2,957
Noakholly	.....	.....	225	2,270
Tipperah	.....	.....	43	2,766
Chittagong Hill Tracts	8	3	2	61
TOTAL OF THE CHITTAGONG DIVISION ...	8	3	600	8,054
Patna	.....	3	838	7,669
Gya	.....	.....	113	8,454
Shahabad	.....	.....	213	6,215
Mozufferpore	.....	.....	295	5,606
Durbhunga	.....	.....	44	4,973
Sarun	.....	26	94	5,465
Chumparun	1	.....	340	3,351
TOTAL OF THE PATNA DIVISION ..	1	29	1,937	41,733
Monghyr	.....	.....	413	3,723
Bhaugulpore	.....	.....	228	5,011
Purneah	.....	.....	76	4,264
Maldah	.....	.....	159	2,011
Southal Pergunnahs	19	42	646	12,500
TOTAL OF THE BHAUGULPORE DIVISION	19	42	1,522	27,509

Districts.	Paid.		Unpaid.	
	Supervisors.	Enumerators.	Supervisors.	Enumerators.
Cuttack	.....	.....	448	5,436
Pooree	.....	37	275	2,305
Balasore	.....	8	542	2,916
Total of the Orissa Division ...	.....	45	1,265	10,657
Hazaribagh	.....	.....	134	2,251
Lohardugga	21	196	70	1,232
Singbhoom	.....	129	77	241
Manbhoom	.....	.....	56	3,310
Total of the Chota Nagpore Division ...	21	325	337	7,034
GRAND TOTAL ...	72	1,323	13,943	191,059

Numbering of houses.

11. Simultaneously with the appointment of supervisors and enumerators began the preparation of house lists and the numbering of houses—operations which were almost everywhere successfully carried out, and which conduced greatly to the success of the final operations.

General plan of the census.

12. The general plan of the census operations was that there should be first of all a preliminary enumeration of the population, made carefully and at leisure some time before the actual date of the census, and that, secondly, there should be on one night—the 17th February, the same for the whole of the Indian empire—a final correction of the previous entries. During the interval which elapsed between the conclusion of the preliminary enumeration and the date of the final census, the supervising officers were directed to check the entries in the schedule books as thoroughly as possible. In order to obviate the necessity of many corrections and additions on the night of the final enumeration, it was desirable that the date for the commencement of the preliminary enumeration should be as late as possible, yet not so close to the 17th February as to allow too small a margin for the occurrence of the unavoidable delays and disappointments which must always occur in conducting large operations of this kind, or to leave insufficient time for the checking of the preliminary entries. Accordingly the 5th of January was selected as the first day of the preliminary enumeration, and it was to be completed everywhere by the end of the month, thus leaving rather more than a fortnight for the operations of the checking officers. This programme was for the most part carried out; and although from unavoidable causes some district officers were late in beginning their preliminary enumeration, yet it was everywhere completed before the census day, and the entries in the schedules were adequately checked in every district, and very elaborately checked in some districts. Such was the general plan; but special arrangements had to be devised for the enumeration of boats, both in inland waters and along the coasts; for the counting of the population on railways, both resident and travelling; for the census of persons in camp, collected at fairs, travelling by roads, or without a home; for the enumeration of cantonments; for jails, hospitals, and other public institutions; and for the census of the Sundarbuns. These operations involved much forethought and careful attention not only on the part of the officer charged with the chief superintendence of the census, but on the part of the district officers whose duty it was to elaborate and apply his general instructions. These instructions, together with the general instructions for the census of the ordinary population, will be found detailed in full in Appendix A, and need not be further dwelt on here. They are believed to have worked well everywhere, and little or no difficulty occurred. Finally, on the night of the 17th February, each enumerator visited every house in his block, taking with him the book of schedules prepared during the preliminary enumeration, and then and there corrected and completed it, striking out the entries for those persons who had left the house, and entering all particulars for those persons who had come to the house since the date of the preliminary counting. In a very few districts in Bengal

a slight deviation from this programme was permitted, namely in those places where, from the uncivilised state of the district, or the distances separating the different houses and villages, enumeration by night was impracticable. Here the census was completed on the morning of the 18th February; but the number of these tracts was so small, that they do not affect the truth of the general assertion that the census was truly synchronous.

Attitude of the people.

13. The demeanour of the people throughout these proceedings was for the most part all that could be desired. Among a people so uneducated and so credulous as are the mass of those who inhabit these provinces, it was to be expected that much apprehension would be caused by an operation on the elaborate scale of the census, involving the record of personal matters respecting every soul in the country, of whatever sex or age, and yet conducing to no definite result clearly perceptible by the native mind. While, however, the bearing of the people was generally submissive, the wildest rumours were in many places circulated, and only partially dissipated by the explanations of Government officers and of the more intelligent natives; and in some few tracts of the country there was a show of resistance to the taking of the census. In the Sonthal Pergunnahs, and in those parts of the neighbouring districts where Sonthals form a large proportion of the population, interested agitators seized the opportunity of the census for a tribal demonstration. Objection was taken to the numbering of the houses and of the people, and to the record of their names; while the fact that the final enumeration was to be carried out at night lent colour to representations that some widespread policy of violence was meditated by Government. In the districts adjoining the Sonthal Pergunnahs the exertions of district officers were sufficient to allay this irritation; but in the Sonthal Pergunnahs themselves, where the people were terrified by the rumours circulated among them and were in a highly excited condition, it was thought necessary to dispense with the final nocturnal enumeration, and to overawe the Sonthals by marching detachments of troops through their country. These measures were entirely successful, and the night of the census passed quietly away. In a remote part of the district of Pooree, and in isolated villages, chiefly in backward districts inhabited by aboriginal and half-civilised tribes, some slight reluctance was manifested; but in every case it yielded to remonstrance, and the taking of the census throughout the province may be said to have passed off with perfect success and without disturbance except in the Sonthal Pergunnahs. The Census Act, which became law in November 1880, was extended by a notification of Government to all parts of British territory within the jurisdiction of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. There was, however, scarcely any occasion to make use of the penal clauses of the Act; the nominations and appointments made under its provisions were on the whole cheerfully accepted, and the prescribed duties were loyally carried out.

Opposition among the Sonthals.

Contents of the schedule.

14. This attitude of the people is all the more gratifying when it is considered that much more information was required by the schedule of 1881 than by that of 1872, and that much more minute enquiries were thereby necessitated. In 1872 the particulars required were for each person—

1. Age (divided into two periods—under, or over, 12 years).
2. Sex.
3. Religion or caste.
4. Race or tribe.
5. Occupation.
6. Infirmities.

At the census of February 1881 the enumerator's schedule contained columns for the following information:—

1. Age (to be given as exactly as possible).
2. Sex.
3. Civil or conjugal condition.
4. Religion.
5. Caste or sect.
6. Birthplace.
7. Mother tongue.
8. Degree of education.
9. Occupation.
10. Infirmities.

Thus four entirely new matters of enquiry were introduced, and the information as to age was sought in much greater detail. As at the previous census, the names of males only were asked for, and the names of females were not demanded if there was any objection to giving them.

15. While the general census of Bengal was, as stated above, supervised by the present writer, who was appointed Deputy Superintendent of Census Operations, the important operation of enumerating the population of the town and suburbs of Calcutta was made over to Mr. Beverley, Additional Judge of the 24-Pergunnahs and Howrah, who conducted the Calcutta census of 1876 and the general census of Bengal in 1872 with marked success. At the beginning of 1880, when the preliminary arrangements for the census were considered, Mr. Beverley was officiating as Chairman of the Municipal Commissioners; and at their request, and after consultation with the Health Officer of the Town, he prepared a scheme for taking the census of the municipality, which was accepted by the Municipal Commissioners and approved by Government. This scheme contemplated the record of other statistics besides those required for the general census, and the opportunity was to be taken to prepare maps of the sewage and of the water communications at the same time that maps were made of each block for purely census purposes. Before this work had passed beyond the first stage of preparation, Mr. Beverley ceased to be Chairman; but when he was again placed in charge of the census in December, he was able to carry out the scheme that he had originally devised. The census of both the town and suburbs was taken with great success, and the final results were submitted by Mr. Beverley to Government early in September in a separate report.

Census of Calcutta.

16. The Calcutta census of 1876 was virtually taken by the police, but on this occasion an endeavour was made to carry out the preliminary operations as much as possible without directly employing them. For purposes of supervision and check, however, advantage was freely taken of their local knowledge and authority; and on the night of the census a constable accompanied each enumerator round his beat, while the superior officers of the police were active in supervision. The whole of the census arrangements for the city of Calcutta were based upon the municipal assessment registers. The municipality is divided into 18 wards, each of which was placed under a supervisor. Survey maps for each ward exist, but they had to be revised so as correctly to represent existing facts. This done, each ward was broken up into enumerators' blocks, and for each of these again a block plan and a correct list of the houses it contained had to be prepared. This operation, and the numbering of the houses and huts which followed, were very tedious, and were not always carried out without opposition on the part of the inhabitants. Eventually, however, they were concluded, and the enumerators were next required to prepare a house register in a form prescribed for the purpose. By the time that this part of the work was finished the enumerators' schedules were ready, and the preliminary enumeration was commenced; and although the commencement of the preliminary enumeration was allowed to approach much nearer the date of the final census than was originally intended, yet by great exertions the preliminary entries were everywhere filled in before the 17th February, and the work of every enumerator was tested either by the supervisor of the ward or by a police-officer of superior grade.

Arrangements made for it.

17. The census of the Suburbs was arranged in a similar manner by the Vice-Chairman of the Suburban Municipality working in concert with Mr. Beverley. Special arrangements had also to be made for the port of Calcutta, including not only the boats which ply within its limits and the vessels lying along the banks, but the sea-going steamers and sailing ships which are constantly passing up and down the river. The census of Fort William was taken by the Military authorities.

Census of the Suburbs.

18. In concluding his account of the taking of the census of 1872, Mr. Beverley was at the trouble of collecting from the reports of district officers testimony in favour of the general accuracy of the census. On the present occasion that course seems hardly necessary. The census of 1872 was the first regular census ever taken over the whole of Bengal, and many even of those who were appointed to carry it through were sceptical as to its success. It had the great disadvantage of novelty; and that it should be as accurate as it was, was fully admitted at the time to be extremely creditable to Mr. Beverley and the officers of all grades who worked with him. It is no slur on his administration to say that the census just taken is certainly much more correct than that of 1872, just as it is to be expected that the census of 1891 will be more

Accuracy of the census figures discussed.

accurate than that of 1881. Several causes combined to produce this effect. In the first place the census was no longer so much of a novelty: and although it is the experience of district officers that the country folk themselves have almost entirely forgotten the census of 1872, yet the machinery by which it was to be taken was explained in Mr. Beverley's report, and whatever progress, however little, has been made during the last nine years, even in the most backward districts, must have had the effect of making the people comprehend better than formerly the fact that Government had no ulterior designs behind the census, and that especially it is the precursor of no tax. By three other special measures, moreover, the probability of accuracy in the present census was very greatly increased, namely, by the more careful scrutiny of the village lists and preparation of the village registers, by the more elaborate numbering of houses, and by the checking of the entries made at the preliminary enumeration. The exhaustive enquiries which were essential to the reconcilement of differences in the village registers disclosed many villages which had been altogether omitted from the enumeration of 1872; and if this could have happened to whole villages, it is not difficult to understand that it should have happened to houses and families. Further, at the census of 1872 no attempt was made to number each house or to check the entries made at the preliminary enumeration, whereas at the census just taken both these measures were very fully carried out with the greatest possible benefit. But besides the probability of greater accuracy being obtained, there is internal evidence in the figures that it has actually been secured. The figures on every subject accord very closely with the conclusions drawn by experienced observers from known facts. Wherever there has been any discrepancy, it has given way on closer inspection, or a probable and simple explanation has been found. It has been pointed out above that the schedule of 1881 asked for much more information than that of 1872; and it would be only natural if, in consequence, there were greater inaccuracy in the statistics. But in point of fact the demand for more detailed information seems to have had a contrary effect: enumerators discovered that there was so much to be recorded, and that it was of so various a character, that they must devote great attention to their work; and the prospect of the supervisor's visit of inspection strengthened the feeling which the minuteness of the schedule aroused. On the whole it may be said without fear of contradiction that the general accuracy of enumeration on all salient and important points is astonishing, and that although on some minor points, such as exact age, definition of castes and occupations, there has been some error, yet this error is much less than might have been expected, and forms a quite inappreciable quantity when compared with the great mass of facts accurately recorded.

Census of Tributary States

19. While the census arrangements in each district were being made by the district officers, Government invited the chiefs of the independent states over which Bengal exercises a political supremacy to join in the general enumeration, making their own arrangements and employing their own agents. From every state except that of Hill Tipperah a cordial assent was received, and the census was taken as if in a British district. The Maharajah of Hill Tipperah, however, eventually agreed to do what was asked, but declined to employ the ordinary schedules, and caused a special kind of schedule to be printed for use in his domains. Moreover, at the request of the Census Commissioner, a census of all British subjects residing within the territory of Chandernagore was taken with the courteous assistance of the local authorities. These figures do not find any place in the census tables, but will be found in Appendix A. The figures for the various Feudatory States are incorporated in the general tables with those for districts in Bengal.

and of Chandernagore.

CHAPTER II.

THE COMPILATION OF THE RETURNS.

Collection of the schedules.

20. Before the census had actually been taken, arrangements were made for collecting the schedules immediately after the 17th February and getting them forwarded to the Central Offices, where their contents were to be abstracted and finally compiled in the forms prescribed by the Government of India. Full details of these instructions will be found in Circular No. 33, a copy of which has been reproduced in Appendix A; but briefly stated the scheme was this. The enumerators, as soon as they had finally written up their books and recorded on the docket the total of the persons entered in each book, were to bring them in to the supervisor of their circle. His duty was to look through them rapidly, for detailed inspection, though desirable, would have occupied a very long time, and then have them made up into bundles and forwarded with a proper way-bill and abstract to the district officer through the Magistrate of the subdivision. Elaborate instructions were given, and forms were provided for keeping distinct the schedule books for each block, circle, and thannah, tied up in bundles by themselves, and the wisdom of these elaborate precautions was fully proved when the work of abstracting began. In the district offices, before the schedule books were sent, a rough preliminary count of the population was made, based upon the figures given on the dockets of the schedule books, and they were then forwarded to the three Central Compiling Offices at Calcutta, Dinapore, and Cuttack.

First count of the people.

21. This first count was executed in different districts with very varying degrees of rapidity and accuracy. The first district officer to calculate his rough total and send in his books was Mr. MacDonnell, Magistrate of Sarun, and he was followed by Mr. Buckland, Magistrate of Howrah. The schedule books from these districts were received in Patna and Calcutta on the 22nd February and 26th February respectively. The district from which the books were received last was Rungpore, for they did not reach the Calcutta Census Office till the 19th May. The rough total of the whole province, including the separate totals for districts, divisions, and provinces, was published on the 29th April 1881, and the total thus arrived at was 68,850,747. When the detailed compilation had been carried out, it was found that the true figures for the population of the province were 69,536,861: so that between the first and the corrected total there is a difference of 686,114 persons in favour of the latter. The variations in some districts between the totals first reported and those ascertained by actual compilation are very startling. In Mymensingh the corrected total shows 101,861 persons in excess of that first given; in Gya there was a similar error of 66,702; in the 24-Pergunnahs it amounted to 55,610; in Bhaugulpore to 42,882; and in Hazaribagh to 32,255: while Dacca, Rungpore, and Patna overstated their population by 80,291, 71,861, and 39,793 respectively. On the other hand, in some cases the first count was singularly near the mark, as, for instance, in Maldah, where the difference was only (138), Pubna (349), Bogra (812), Howrah (1,286), and Julpigoree (1,678). The cause in most of these cases was that the enumerators had filled in the dockets in their books after the preliminary, and had not corrected them after the final, enumeration.

Distribution of the work of compilation.

22. It was decided that there should be three Central Offices for the compilation of the figures, which were located, as already stated, at Calcutta, Dinapore, and Cuttack. At Calcutta there were at first two, and subsequently a third Branch Superintendent, all working under the personal direction of the Deputy Superintendent for Bengal; while the Dinapore and Cuttack Offices were each entrusted to a Branch Superintendent under the same general supervision. The distribution of the districts for tabulation is explained in

the margin, and it may be said roughly that out of a population of 69½ millions the schedules for 38 millions were abstracted at Calcutta, those for rather more than 26 millions at Dinapore, and those for not quite 5 millions at Cuttack. Before the operation had gone very far, it was found necessary to establish a small office at Ranchi, as an offshoot of that at Dinapore, to work out the statistics of the Tributary Estates of Chota Nagpore and parts of other districts in the Chota Nagpore Division.

Calcutta.	*Dinapore.*	*Cuttack.*
Burdwan.	Patna.	Cuttack.
Bankoorah.	Gya.	Pooree.
Beerbhom.	Shahabad.	Balasore.
Midnapore.	Mozufferpore.	Angul.
Hooghly.	Durbhunga.	Banki.
Howrah.	Sarun.	Tributary States, Orissa.
24-Pergunnahs.	Chumparun.	Tributary States, Chota Nagpore (part).
Nuddea.	Monghyr.	
Jessore.	Bhaugulpore.	
Khulna.	Purneah (part).	
Moorshedabad.	Sonthal Pergunnahs (part).	
Dinagepore.	Hazaribagh (part).	
Rajshahye.	Manbhoom (part).	
Rungpore.	Singbhoom (part).	
Bogra.	Tributary States of Chota Nagpore (part).	
Pubna.	Darjeeling (part).	
Darjeeling (part).		
Julpigoree	*Ranchee.*	
Dacca.		
Furreedpore.	Lohardugga.	
Backergunge.	Hazaribagh (part).	
Mymensingh.	Manbhoom (part).	
Chittagong.	Singbhoom (part).	
Noakholly	Tributary States of Chota Nagpore (part)	
Tipperah.		
Chittagong Hill Tracts.		
Maldah.		
Purneah (part).		
Sonthal Pergunnahs (part).		
Cooch Behar.		
Manbhoom (part).		
Singbhoom (part).		

Preparation of the statements.

23. The preparation of the census tables was divided into three processes, known technically as abstraction, tabulation, and compilation. In the first process the actual facts in the schedules for the different individuals were abstracted into a set of working registers, seven in number, each showing a different statistic, the set being complete for each block and village. From the working registers the village tables were prepared, in each of which the information given in one of the working registers was expanded, and the unit being the village the total of the village table was the total of the thannah. Lastly, the twenty-one final forms prescribed by the Government of India were compiled from the village tables, and the unit in each being the thannah the total was the total of the whole district. It was found that the processes of abstracting and tabulating were equally laborious, and that compilation, including as it did in Bengal the preparation of many more tables than were prescribed by the Government of India, was an operation little less troublesome.

Progress in Calcutta.

24. Abstracting began in Calcutta on the 1st March 1881, and may be said to have been finished by the middle of October of that year. Tabulating, when once started, was carried on *pari passu* with this work. But it is obvious that it could not be commenced till a sufficient number of working registers had been prepared by the abstracting clerks; and accordingly it was not till the 15th May 1881 that tabulation was begun here in earnest, and the whole of the village tables were not finally ready till the early part of January 1882. It was arranged that compilation, or the transfer of the information from the village tables to the final forms, should be done in Calcutta, only the village tables being sent down for that purpose, in order that it might be carried on under the direct personal supervision of the Deputy Superintendent. It was commenced with a small staff in September 1881, and the last form prescribed by the Government of India was concluded and despatched to the Census Commissioner on the 15th August 1882; but the preparation of the numerous other tables for the Bengal Government and other authorities, which now compose Volume III of this Report, occupied the compiling staff up to the month of January 1883.

In Dinapore.

25. In the Dinapore Office operations commenced with abstracting under my personal direction about the 5th April 1881, and this part of the work was over about the middle of September. Tabulation lasted from the month of June 1881 to the end of that year, and the whole of the village tables from Dinapore had been despatched to Calcutta for compilation by the first week in January 1882.

And in Cuttack.

26. In Cuttack also I started the work in person, and abstracting was commenced on the 1st May 1881 and was concluded by the middle of October.

Tabulation in the same Office commenced on the 19th of August 1881, and would certainly have been finished by the end of January but for the fire in that Office, which destroyed a large portion of the working registers and village tables already prepared, and necessitated the re-abstracting and re-tabulating of the statistics for about 1,450,000 persons. Finally, the damage done by the conflagration was repaired, and the last set of village tables forwarded to the Calcutta Office for compilation about the middle of March 1882.

Establishment employed

27. The brief account given above does not convey any idea whatever of the vast extent of these operations, and of the enormous number of clerks employed in order that this gigantic work might be completed within a reasonable time. A more vivid impression may perhaps be conveyed to the mind by the perusal of the following figures, which show the number of men employed in each month at each Office on all of these preliminary processes, and in the equally important work of checking as well as in the record-room and other subsidiary departments :—

Office.	Number employed in each month.												
	1881.										1882.		
	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	January.	February.	Total.
Calcutta	204	628	1,344	1,899	2,468	2,046	1,691	1,479	1,805	1,374	895	327	16,160
Dinapore (including Ranchee)	.....	451	1,088	1,379	1,759	1,537	37	524	699	1	.....	.....	7,475
Cuttack	.....	.....	252	397	235	155	187	259	243	172	291	434	2,625
Total ...	204	1,079	2,684	3,675	4,462	3,738	1,915	2,262	2,747	1,547	1,186	761	26,260

Besides these men a large number were employed during the remainder of 1882 in concluding compilation work, which averaged 69 per mensem, dwindling from 209 in March 1882 to 3 in February 1883.

Preparation of Calcutta statements.

28. While this work was going on for the mofussil census, Mr. Beverley, the Special Census Officer for Calcutta and the Suburbs, had lost no time in organising and starting his Office. Abstracting began in March 1881 and was concluded by the middle of June; tabulating and compilation then followed, and were completed by the end of July.

Qualifications of clerks.

29. So great was the number of clerks required for the work that it was impossible to fix any considerable educational qualifications as a condition of employment. At first the attempt was made in Calcutta to entertain only such clerks as knew English ; but as the demands of the Census Commissioner for completion of the work within a very short time grew more pressing, this test had to be abandoned, and after a time any clerk who could read and write well in Bengali, and seemed intelligent and respectable, was employed. In Dinapore and Cuttack a knowledge of English was never asked for. The class of men employed in the mofussil offices was also better than those whom dire necessity compelled us to entertain in Calcutta. A certain number of respectable clerks with local knowledge were sent from the various districts to the Office where the district figures were being compiled, and these men proved themselves useful. During the summer vacation a large number of school-boys also joined the Census Offices, especially those in Calcutta, as clerks, and made themselves extremely useful, being among the smartest, and at the same time the best behaved, clerks of the whole body. But there were besides these a quantity of scamps out of place, into whose antecedents it was impossible to enquire, who were idle and insubordinate, and who, until they were detected and expelled, were a constant source of disquiet to the office. In the Dinapore and Cuttack Offices, as has been said, the class of clerks was much better, and the number required was not so large. Moreover, they all lodged in the neighbourhood of the Office, and as most of them had come from a distance with the special object of employment on census work, instead of being spread all over a large town, as in Calcutta, while they had thus more to lose from dismissal, the pay was found sufficient to attract a better class of men in the mofussil Offices than in the metropolis.

30. The pay at first offered to the clerks was Rs. 15 per mensem for an abstractor and Rs. 20 for a checker. These sums were modified from time to time

and in different Offices to suit the requirements of each, and intermediate grades were introduced; but the above remained the general standards of remuneration. Piece-work was introduced at a very early stage of the proceedings, and although keeping a record of the work each man, or group of men, performed was somewhat tedious, the plan was found extremely beneficial, as it ensured the completion of a certain amount of work; and the register not only enabled fines to be enforced for incorrect or insufficient work, but made it possible to trace with very little difficulty the course of any schedule book through the hands of all the clerks who were concerned with it. Fines were very freely enforced, and had a most wholesome effect.

Checking.

31. The amount of check required and the cost of checking were very much underestimated at first in all Offices, and this branch of the establishment had constantly to be augmented. Great care was taken, in the arrangement of the working registers, to make their totals tally in several points, so that they might thus be used to correct each other; and it was hoped that this automatic check would secure accuracy and prevent fudging of the figures. But the work of abstracting had not proceeded far before this delusion was dispelled; and whereas at first it was anticipated that only a small percentage of the working registers would have to be independently checked, the percentage rose rapidly from 10 to 20, 30, and 50, and eventually every working register was passed through the hands of the Checking Department before being sent on for tabulation. Those which were found incorrect were set aside and were corrected, or else new ones were abstracted afresh from the original schedules by an establishment organised for the purpose. To check the village tables elaborate checking sheets were devised, which placed together on one large sheet of paper the principal totals in all the village tables, and enabled the supervising officer to see at a glance whether they coincided or not; and finally these tables were examined again by the compiling staff before the figures were transferred into the final forms. It is impossible to overrate the advantages of this elaborate system of checking. It was certainly expensive, but I enforced it because I found from actual experience that nothing less minute would suffice to detect errors. It is believed that a less elaborate system was accepted elsewhere, and the Census Commissioner was unable to admit the necessity for so thorough a check. But I was so strongly convinced of the impossibility of securing accuracy with anything less searching, and of the unwisdom of the policy of accepting imperfect figures for the sake of some saving in time and money when the information had already been collected with great labour and cost, that I resolutely maintained to the end in all Offices the strictest and most minute check. The result has been most satisfactory. A certain percentage of error is of course inseparable from every census compilation, but I believe that on the present occasion it is infinitesimal; that the figures in the village tables and final forms are an almost perfect reproduction of the facts recorded in the original schedules; that the time, labour, and money expended in checking has been far more than repaid by the accuracy and general accord of all the tables; and, unless the abstracting establishment elsewhere was more competent and less dishonest than it was in Bengal, I find it difficult to place any great confidence in the figures of any province where the checking was not equally minute.

Disposal of schedules.

32. After the schedule books had been abstracted they were all returned to the record-room, and after being kept till all the re-abstraction had been completed and there was no likelihood of their being wanted again for reference they were first destroyed so as to be illegible and not capable of illicit use, and then sold as waste paper. The sum obtained by this means, as will be shown in the next Chapter, was in all three Offices Rs. 8,348-9-9.

Conduct of clerks.

33. Although the compiling Offices contained the disturbing elements alluded to above, the demeanour of the clerks was on the whole very good. In each Office the system of selection by merit resulted in the collection of a strong staff of upper clerks, and many of those who rose to superior appointments were men of exceptionally good character and attainments, who not only were possessed of quickness and intelligence in mastering the numerous details of their work, but proved themselves most trustworthy and reliable in times of difficulty. In each Office there was some disturbance, which was promptly suppressed. In Cuttack there were some demonstrations when the determination to enforce piece-work was announced, but I forthwith expelled the ringleaders and the

agitation died away. In Dinapore private quarrels and jealousies between the supervisors gave some trouble, and a mutinous spirit among the clerks, who considered that they were being overworked, culminated in a strike in the month of September 1881. But the crisis was promptly met by Mr. Baker, the Branch Superintendent of the Office; and when I arrived at Dinapore there was little to do but to approve and confirm his arrangements. In Calcutta there were two outbreaks—one a collision between the clerks and the police at the Town Hall, which was dealt with in the Magistrate's Court, and the second, a more serious and combined strike, which took place just before the Doorga Poojah holidays, and was due to the dissatisfaction of the clerks with my orders directing that the offices would remain open during the holidays. Vigorous measures were at once employed, the ringleaders were dismissed with forfeiture of pay, the sections most in fault were fined all round, and a lesson was taught to the clerks which did not need repetition.

Fire at Cuttack.

34. Throughout the whole operations subsequent to the actual enumeration the safety of the enormous mass of records was a source of constant anxiety to the heads of the different Offices. In Calcutta suitable buildings were easily found, and there was not much fear of anything but wilful damage; but in Dinapore and Cuttack the fear of fire was constantly present. Happily no such catastrophe occurred at Dinapore, and Cuttack enjoyed a similar immunity till the operations were almost completed. On the 27th December 1881, however, an incendiary fire occurred in that Office; and although almost all the original schedules, which were safely housed in a masonry building close by, escaped unhurt, a very large number of working registers and village tables, affecting about one-third of the population of Orissa, was completely destroyed, with the temporary Office which had been erected for the accommodation of the clerks. No clue was ever discovered to the identity of the incendiary, but it was the opinion of the local authorities, in which I entirely concurred, that the fire was the work of one or more clerks who foresaw their impending discharge and desired a re-engagement. I went down to Cuttack immediately on receiving telegraphic intelligence of the fire, and soon arranged for the abstracting and tabulating afresh of the papers destroyed in the conflagration.

Disposal of tables.

35. As soon as the final forms had been prepared in manuscript, and their further retention in the Central Office at Calcutta was unnecessary, they were packed up and despatched to the Magistrates of the districts to which they referred, with the exception of those for Castes and Occupations, which have been retained in Calcutta for special reasons. All the various village tables for each thannah were placed together in one portfolio, so as to be easily accessible, and it was left to the discretion of district officers to retain all the thannah portfolios at the head-quarters of the district or to distribute them to their sub-divisional officers. All the final forms, on the other hand, have been retained in the record-room of the Census Office in Calcutta, which is attached to that of the Inspector-General of Registration in Bengal. They contain information in no greater detail than for thannahs, and their totals supply the district figures for the printed tables of the report. The village tables, on the other hand, supply figures for each village; their scope and arrangement are fully explained in Circular No. 49, which will be found in Appendix A. The preparation of district pamphlets has also been undertaken, giving for each district, in pamphlet form, its most important statistics.

British-born subjects. Port Blair.

36. It should be mentioned that, in addition to compiling statistics for the population of Bengal, it became the duty of my office to prepare special tables showing the figures for British-born subjects for the Registrar-General of England, and also to compile for the Census Commissioner statistics of the census of Port Blair and the Andaman Islands. The tables referring to British-born subjects, not being of general interest, have not been printed with the other tables in this report, and those for Port Blair and the Andamans have been separately published by the Census Commissioner.

Comparison of work to be done in 1872 and 1881.

37. A comparison of the work done in compiling the returns of the census of 1872 and 1881 will naturally suggest itself to the reader, but in reality no such comparison is possible. The census of 1872 was merely a tentative one, and did not venture to ask for very detailed information. In the census schedule of 1881 four entirely new points of enquiry appeared for the first time, and great detail of age was asked for. The fuller statistics

furnished by the schedules have been worked out in much greater detail, as will be apparent from the following considerations. In 1872 the number of statistical returns prepared was fifteen, three of them being of a very petty character, and they were exhibited in 231 foolscap pages. In 1881 the number of tables prescribed was thirty-one, besides a large number in the body of the report, and they fill 996 closely printed pages of the same size. Mr. Beverley by great exertions was enabled to submit his report, with the statements, within eleven months of the date of the census; whereas the preparation of the present report and statements has occupied two years and two months. And, lastly, as explained in the next Chapter, the cost of the undertaking of 1881 has been about four times as great as was that of the census of 1872. These facts should be borne in mind whenever any attempt is made to institute a comparison between the two undertakings. To Mr. Beverley is due the credit of having initiated the work, of having laid down the general plan on which all future censuses of Bengal must be taken, and of having produced an admirable report in a remarkably short time with a small expenditure of public money. On the other hand, the officers employed in the census just taken have had to deal with a much more elaborate operation, which has resulted in a prolonged expenditure of time, labour, and money, of which no one in India could have formed any previous conception.

CHAPTER III.

THE COST OF THE CENSUS.

38. The cost of the census operations from first to last, including both actual cash payments and the value of book-transfers between one department and another, may be roughly stated at eight and a half lakhs of rupees, the exact sum being Rs. 8,55,647-5-11. Full details of this sum will be found in Appendix A, but the various items are very briefly noticed below. Total cost.

39. The expenditure naturally divides itself into two parts—(A) that which was incurred in making preparations for the census and in carrying out the actual enumeration, and (B) that which was incurred in compiling the returns and publishing the report and statements. The amount disbursed under the first head was Rs. 1,87,921, as will be seen by a reference to Appendix A, while the expenditure under the second head amounted to Rs. 6,67,725. Almost the whole of the expenditure under (A) was incurred during the year 1880-81, the payments on this account made after the expiration of that year being for the most part adjustments only; on the other hand, hardly any of the disbursements under (B) were made till the year 1881-82. Heads of expenditure.

40. The abstract statement to which reference has just been made shows the expenditure on (A) under four heads, according as it was incurred in the mofussil, in the Calcutta Central Office, in the Office of the Special Census Officer for Calcutta and the Suburbs, and in taking the census on the railway. The chief item is that for *Printing and paper*, which exceeds one lakh of rupees—a sum which will not be considered excessive when the enormous number of forms to be printed is borne in mind, for, besides those detailed in Chapter II above, there was a very large quantity of smaller miscellaneous forms of various kinds. Cost of preliminary work and actual enumeration.

41. The greater part of the next largest item, viz., *contingencies*, was spent in the mofussil, and represents the unavoidable charges connected with an undertaking of this kind, viz. the cost of country stationery, the reimbursement of their expenses to enumerating officers of various grades, and charges for boats, lights, paint for marking the houses, &c. Four-fifths of the sum spent in Calcutta under this head is debitable to the cost of packing and despatching the census schedules, and was incurred by the Superintendent of Stationery on behalf of the Census Office.

42. The item of Rs. 24,578 for *Office establishment* needs no explanation. It represents the salaries of the men employed in the various district Offices in the very considerable clerical labour which had to be gone through before the census in preparing maps and village and house lists, and in corresponding with the Central Census Office and the numerous subordinate census officials. A very large portion of it also is debitable to the cost of making the rough total which was sent in with the schedules.

43. It has already been stated that the services of enumerators, supervisors, and superintendents were for the most part gratuitously rendered, and that it was only in Calcutta and in certain backward districts that paid officials of these classes had to be employed. The statement shows that whereas Rs. 10,375-11-6 were spent in this manner in Calcutta and the Suburbs, only Rs. 8,761-7-5 was expended in paying supervisors and enumerators in the mofussil for the enumeration of sixty-nine millions of people.

44. Statement C gives further details of the cost of preliminary work and actual enumeration everywhere but in the mofussil, and Statement D gives similar figures for the mofussil. The latter statement is followed, moreover, by another, E, which gives, in abstract form, the expenditure in each Division. The smallest sum absolutely was spent in the Orissa Division; but taking into consideration the numbers of the population in each, the preliminary Mofussil expenditure.

operations were most cheaply conducted in the Patna Division, as the figures in the margin will show. No district approaches Bogra in the strict economy of its arrangements, for the census was taken in that district for the marvellously small sum of Rs. 57-14-3. The largest expenditure, on the other hand, excluding the 24-Pergunnahs, which contains the Suburbs, was incurred in the districts of Backergunge (Rs. 2,665-6-9) and Mymensingh (Rs. 2,299-15-5)—in both of which it was caused by the unavoidable cost of hiring boats; Burdwan (Rs. 2,300-12-3)—where the arrangements, made chiefly by Mr. Philipps, the Joint-Magistrate, were extremely elaborate; and the Sonthal Pergunnahs (Rs. 2,312-7-3)—where paid enumerators and supervisors were a necessity.

Division.	Cost per head of the preliminary operations (in fractions of one pie).
Patna ...	·09
Rajshahye ...	·12
Bhaugulpore ...	·14
Dacca ...	·16
Orissa ...	·18
Burdwan ...	·21
Chota Nagpore ...	·22
Presidency ...	·25
Chittagong ...	·25

Cost of compiling the returns.

45. By far the largest part of the second head of expenditure, B—cost of compiling the returns—falls under the heading of *Office establishment*, and includes the cost of the immense army of abstracting, tabulating, and compiling clerks. The details of this expenditure, and the reasons why there is some variation in the rate in the different Offices, have already been so fully explained to Government elsewhere that I will not go over the same ground again, contenting myself with making two remarks only, viz. that the whole cost of *Compilation*, the last process in the preparation of the statements, falls upon the Calcutta Office alone, and that the expenditure in Cuttack is abnormally high relatively to the number of the population with which the Office was concerned, because a great deal of abstraction and tabulation had to be done over again to make good the losses caused by the fire at that place.

46. *Office rent* in Calcutta was a large item owing to the great amount of accommodation required and the dearness of house room.

47. The Calcutta and Dinapore *Contingencies* include heavy expenditure on furniture, and the former also embraces the charges for packing and despatching innumerable forms to the mofussil Offices.

48. The large item of Rs. 49,326-6-6 is debitable to the cost of *Printing* these same forms, of which the numbers have been given in Chapter II, and also that of printing the present report with its maps and statements. Detailed accounts of this item are not available, but it is taken at Rs. 15,000.

Receipts.

49. On the other hand, Statement F shows that a sum of Rs. 8,348-9-9 has been recovered by the sale of Office furniture and waste paper, which, though credited by the Account Department not to the census, but to the heading of "Miscellaneous" receipts, should be taken into consideration in calculating the real cost of the census. Moreover, the share of the Feudatory States in the cost of compiling the returns has yet to be adjusted; but if their contributions be left out of consideration for the present, the sum quoted above as actually recovered will reduce the real cost of the census to Rs. 8,47,298-12-2. Taken altogether, the census of 69,536,861 persons has been taken at a total cost of Rs. 8,47,298-12-2, which gives a rate of a little more than 2 pie a head, or *rather more than 5 persons completely censused for one anna!* Another calculation shows that the cost per 1,000 has been Rs. 12-2-2; and how favourably this compares with the expenditure in England will be evident from the fact that the cost per 1,000 in that country was £5-9-0 in 1841, £5-4-0 in 1851, £4-15-5 in 1861, and about £5-4-2 in 1871; that is to say, the last census of England cost, in comparison with the population, about five times as much as that just taken in Bengal; and although our returns are of course not so elaborate as those of the English census, they have been prepared in a much shorter time; both enumeration and compilation have been carried out with a vastly inferior agency, and in the face of difficulties to which the Registrar-General of England is a complete stranger.

Net cost of the census.

Cost in 1872 and in 1881.

50. It has already been stated that no real comparison can be instituted between the magnitude of the operations in the 1872 census and in that of 1881, and the statement receives additional force from an examination of the items of expenditure on each occasion. In 1872 the cost of printing and paper for all the forms and the report was Rs. 30,763; in 1881 it was Rs. 1,51,500. In 1872 the expenditure on establishment for compiling the returns was Rs. 84,184; in 1881 it was Rs. 5,60,445, or nearly seven times as much. The mofussil expenditure on both occasions was nearly equal, and it is therefore clear that the cause of the extra expenditure was the much greater detail required in the statements prescribed by Government.

REPORT

ON THE

CENSUS OF BENGAL, 1881.

PART II.

CHAPTERS IV TO XIV.—THE RESULTS OF THE CENSUS.

CHAPTER IV.

STATISTICS OF AREA AND POPULATION.

(Table I, pages 1 to 11, Appendix B, and Table XXII, pages 541 to 650 of Appendix C.)

Area of Bengal.

51. The area of the British territories which constitute the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal is 150,588 square miles, exclusive of the area of large rivers and of the Sundarbuns, a large tract of unsurveyed and half-submerged forest, which forms the seaface of great part of the delta of the Ganges and of the Brahmaputra. This tract is estimated to be 5,976 square miles in extent, and, if it is included in the area of the province, the total reaches 156,564 square miles. But in addition to the districts which are directly under British rule, there are other territories governed by independent chiefs, which are under the general supervision of, and in political dependence upon, the Government of Bengal. These are the principalities of Cooch Behar and Hill Tipperah, situate respectively on the north-eastern and eastern boundaries of Bengal, and the two groups of petty states which lie to the south and south-west of the province and under the names of the Tributary States of Orissa and of Chota Nagpore are governed each by its own chief under the superintendence, and with the advice, of the Commissioner of the nearest British administrative Division. The area of these territories is 36,634 square miles, and as it is usual to include them when speaking of Bengal, the area of the whole province may, for general purposes, be stated at 187,222 square miles without the Sundarbuns, or 193,198 square miles if they are included in the computation.

and of its Provinces.

52. The Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal is further divided into four great provinces of unequal size, but strongly defined characteristics, three of which are well known under the historic names of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa; while the fourth is composed of the still partially developed and comparatively little known territory of Chota Nagpore. Of these provinces Bengal proper is by far the largest, both in actual area and in the numbers of its population. It extends over 70,430 square miles, exclusive of the Sundarbuns which lie wholly within its limits, and thus claims more than one-third of the whole area of the Lieutenant-Governorship. Behar stands next, with an area of 44,139 square miles, or nearly one-fourth of the whole area; Chota Nagpore has 26,966 square miles, and Orissa 9,053; while the various Feudatory States aggregate 36,634 square miles, the greater part of which is mere forest and mountain.

Divisions.

53. These great provinces are again divided into nine administrative Divisions, each under the control of a British officer styled its Commissioner of Revenue and Circuit, whose duties are almost entirely administrative, with the addition in some cases of judicial powers. Of these nine Divisions, five, namely the Presidency Division and those of Burdwan, Rajshahye, Dacca, and Chittagong, are contained within the limits of Bengal proper; two, those of Patna and Bhaugulpore, compose the province of Behar, and the other provinces, viz. Orissa and Chota Nagpore, are conterminous each with the jurisdiction of one Commissioner. The relative rank of these Divisions in respect of area is indicated in the margin, and the figures show how greatly their area differs. The Chota Nagpore Division, which stands first on the list, includes a much larger proportion of uncultivated land than any other, and, as will be shown below, contains a smaller population than any other Division in the province, with the exception of Chittagong, which has less than half its area, and of Orissa, which is little more than one-third its size. Incomparably the most important Division in these provinces, whether it be judged by the extent of its area, the numbers of its population, or the qualities of its inhabitants, is that of Patna; while the

	Area in square miles.
Chota Nagpore	26,966
Patna	23,647
Bhaugulpore ...	20,492
Rajshahye ...	17,428
Dacca	15,000
Burdwan	13,855
Chittagong ...	12,118
Presidency ...	12,029
Orissa	9,053

Bhaugulpore Division, with only a slightly smaller area, stands second to it. The average area of a Commissioner's Division is 16,732 square miles, and the mean is exceeded by the four Divisions first named on the list.

Districts.

54. The nine Divisions of Lower Bengal are further divided into forty-five districts, which exhibit a variation in area still greater than that which was observed among the different Divisions; for whereas the largest district, that of Lohardugga, has an area of 12,045 square miles, the smallest, Howrah, is only 476 square miles in extent, and derives the whole of its importance from the existence within its limits of the great metropolitan suburb of Howrah. The average size of a district in Bengal is 3,323 square miles, and the abstract in the margin gives the names and area of the six smallest and six largest districts.*

Large Districts.	Square miles.	Small Districts.	Square miles.
Lohardugga	12,045	Howrah	476
Hazaribagh	7,021	Hooghly	1,223
Mymensingh ...	6,287	Darjeeling	1,234
Sonthal Pergunnahs ..	5,456	Bogra	1,498
Chittagong Hill Tracts	5,419	Noakholly	1,641
Midnapore	5,082	Beerbhoom	1,756

Sub-divisions,

55. Almost every district in these provinces is further broken up into two or more subdivisions, each of which is administered by a resident Magistrate subordinate to the Magistrate of the district. The number of these subdivisions in Bengal is 135, and their average area is 1,107 square miles, varying from 7,804 square miles in the case of Lohardugga to 33 square miles in the case of Chuadanga, in the Nuddea district.

And thannahs.

56. The last and smallest unit of partition to which it is necessary here to allude is the thannah or police-station jurisdiction. These areas were established by Regulation XX of 1813, according to which they were to consist on an average of a tract of country twenty *koss*, or forty miles, square. Having thus been formed in comparatively recent times for a definite object, and upon a fixed plan, they are not marked by the violent variations which are seen in the area of other civil and revenue divisions of our territory. They have accordingly come to be the recognised subordinate unit of territorial partition, and are every day being used more and more in all administrative matters. The number of thannahs in Bengal is 622, and the average area of each is 236 square miles. As a rule each district is broken up into about 13 of these police circles, the extremes, excluding municipal thannahs, ranging from 39 in the 24-Pergunnahs (including the Suburbs) to 4 in the districts of Darjeeling and Julpigoree.†

These areas compared with others better known.

57. Bare statistics like the foregoing, however, have little significance, and are not easily grasped until they are contrasted and compared with objects with which the mind is familiar. Thus, to say that a cliff is 365 feet high, though absolutely correct, is an assertion less easily comprehended than if it be described as of the height of the dome of St. Paul's; and it will therefore better enable the reader to arrive at a proper estimate of the vast size of Bengal, and of the various units of which its great whole is composed, if they are measured by well-understood and well-known capacities elsewhere. The area of the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, then, including the Feudatory States and the tiger-haunted swamps of the Sundarbuns, viz. 193,198 square miles, is very little less than that of the Kingdom of Spain (195,775 square miles), and a good deal more than half as large again as that of Great Britain and Ireland (121,115 square miles). Bengal proper, which, including the Sundarbuns, covers 76,406 square miles of country, is half as large again as England and Wales (50,498 square miles), and exceeds in area the aggregate of five European States, viz. Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, and Greece, whose total area is only 74,615 square miles; Behar is nearly as extensive as the new Kingdom of Roumania or the ancient Kingdom of Poland; Chota Nagpore is a little larger than Ceylon and a little smaller than Bavaria; Orissa and the Kingdom of Saxony are of almost equal extent; and the area of the Feudatory States is rather more than that of Portugal. Taking the administrative Divisions one with another, their average area is somewhat larger than that of Switzerland; while of the two largest, viz. Patna and Bhaugulpore, it may be said that the former is exactly co-extensive with the Kingdom of Belgium together with the

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* The districts of Angul and Banki and the City and Suburbs of Calcutta are omitted from this calculation. The former are small portions of territory recently acquired from their native rulers, and as they have not yet been included in any British district the statistics for them have necessarily been exhibited separately.

† The districts of the Chittagong Hill Tracts, the State of Hill Tipperah, the Feudatory States of Orissa and Chota Nagpore, have been omitted from this calculation.

Kingdom of the Netherlands, while the Bhaugulpore Division is considerably larger than the Kingdom of Greece. The Dacca Division is the size of Denmark, and the combined area of Rajshahye and Burdwan equals that of Scotland.

58. The average Bengal district, with an area of 3,323 square miles, is considerably larger than any county in England or Ireland except Yorkshire, and is most nearly approached by Argyleshire in Scotland. The very large districts, it need hardly be said, exceed in extent any single county that the United Kingdom shows; and the largest of them, Lohardugga, is greater than the whole of Wales together with the county of York. Hazaribagh (7,021 square miles) is larger than the Irish province of Connaught by 100,000 acres. The districts of the Sonthal Pergunnahs and the Chittagong Hill Tracts are each about as extensive as the newly-acquired German territory of Alsace-Lorraine. The smallest Bengal district, Howrah, is nearly twice the size of Middlesex, rather larger than Bedfordshire, and not much smaller than the Kingdom of Fife. This is, however, an exceptionally small district, not much more extensive than the average Bengal subdivision; and the next district to it in order of littleness, viz. Hooghly, is nearly four times its size. Hooghly, then, with 1,223 square miles, and Darjeeling, with 1,234 square miles, which may be taken as types of the smaller districts in Bengal, are each almost as large as the English county of Gloucester or the Irish counties of Clare and Tyrone.

59. Each subdivision in Bengal is on the average exactly as large as an English county; for whereas the mean size of an English county is 717,677 acres, or 1,121 square miles, the average area of a Bengal subdivision is 708,840 acres, or 1,107 square miles. A Bengal thannah, being 236 square miles in extent, is rather more than twice the size of Malta.

Changes in area since 1872.

60. If a reference be made to the report on the census of 1872, published by Mr. Beverley, it will be noticed that there is a considerable difference between the figures therein for the area and population of the different districts and those given for the same districts at the same time in the present Census Tables I and II. The explanation of the apparent discrepancy is to be found in the numerous changes of boundary which have been carried out within the nine years which elapsed between the two enumerations. Most of these changes have been made on administrative grounds, but it has been extremely troublesome, both for the officers of the general administration and for those whose duty it is to deal with boundary questions, to follow them. Since the census of 1872 a special establishment has been attached to the Office of the Inspector-General of Registration for the sole purpose of noting these changes and for carrying out the alterations which they necessitated in the census figures of 1872. The work has been very laborious, but it has been well carried out; and the usefulness of the establishment has been repeatedly vindicated, as will be proved by the long list of districts below, in all of which changes took place, involving not only a transfer of area, but corrections of all the printed tables prepared for each thannah in each district after the census of 1872.

Districts of which the external boundary was altered.		Districts in which internal changes were carried out.	
Burdwan.	Noakholly.	Midnapore.	Chittagong.
Bankoorah.	Tipperah.	24-Pergunnahs.	Patna.
Beerbhoom.	Gya.	Nuddea.	Gya.
Midnapore.	Durbhunga.	Dinagepore.	Shahabad.
Hooghly.	Mozufferpore.	Rajshahye.	Sarun.
Howrah.	Monghyr.	Rungpore.	Bhagulpore.
Moorshedabad.	Bhagulpore.	Furreedpore.	Cuttack.
Rungpore.	Singbhoom.	Backergunge.	Manbhoom.
Furreedpore.	Manbhoom.		
Backergunge.	Tributary States of Chota Nagpore.		
Mymensingh.			
Chittagong.			

61. Of these changes the most important are: (1) the great revision of district boundaries in the Burdwan Division; (2) the fission of Tirhoot into the two districts of Durbhunga and Mozufferpore, and the reconstitution of boundaries (3) between Backergunge and Furreedpore, (4) between Noakholly and Tipperah, and (5) between Chittagong and the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

General statistics of population.

62. The total population which was enumerated within the limits of the Lower Provinces of Bengal on the census night, viz. the 17th February 1881, was 69,536,861. This number includes not only the population found residing at their homes or in houses and buildings, but also all passengers by road and

rail travelling within the limits of the province on that night, all persons arriving from the sea within the few days next following the night of the census, and the great company of people found in boats on rivers and canals, wandering tribes, or solitary individuals encamped in the open air or found watching the fields, or harbouring in temples, groves, riverside steps and such places where homelessness and destitution seek asylum for the night. To meet each and all of these cases special arrangements were matured, and the attempt was further made to obtain information as to the numbers of the shifting population by separating residents from occasional visitors. The instructions prescribing this separation were, however, received somewhat late; and in addition to this they were not thoroughly understood by many of the less intelligent enumerators. For these reasons the information obtained was incomplete and misleading. It will be obvious, further, that statistics of this character, though locally important, have no value as a whole for the province. The figures obtained have, therefore, not been printed, though they are available in manuscript for every village, and consequently for every larger unit of division in the province.

Population of each Division,

63. The quota which each Division and province contributes to the whole, and the proportion which the population of each bears to 100 of the whole population, are set forth in detail in the abstract in the margin. These figures show that Bengal proper claims more than half the entire population of the Lieutenant-Governorship, that just one-third of the whole are found in Behar, and that the remaining sixth includes the entire population of Chota Nagpore, Orissa, and the Tributary States. By far the most populous Division in the province is that of Patna, which contains a population nearly twice as great as that of any other. Next in order of population stands the Dacca Division, which contains the great district of Mymensingh, with the thriving Collectorates of Dacca and Backergunge. Between the Divisions of the Presidency and Bhaugulpore there is only a difference of 200,000 souls in favour of the former, both being over eight millions. The Rajshahye and Burdwan Divisions form the next pair, with something more than seven million inhabitants each, and there remain, besides the incongruous group of Tributary States, the three numerically small Divisions of Chota Nagpore, Orissa, and Chittagong. Bengal is thus divided into six large and three small Divisions, and the mean population of the nine is 7,410,161, or a little more than that of the Burdwan division as it now stands.

Division and Province.	Population.	Percentage.
Burdwan Division	7,393,954	10·63
Presidency „	8,204,912	11·79
Rajshahye „	7,733,775	11·12
Dacca „	8,700,939	12·51
Chittagong „	3,574,048	5·13
All Bengal Proper ...	*35,607,628*	*51·20*
Patna Division	15,063,944	21·66
Bhaugulpore „	8,063,160	11·59
All Behar ...	*23,127,104*	*33·25*
Chota Nagpore	*4,225,989*	*6·07*
Orissa	*3,730,735*	*5·36*
All Bengal ...	66,691,456	95·90
Feudatory States	*2,845,405*	*4·09*
All Bengal, including Feudatory States ...	69,536,861	100

District,

64. The average population of each of the forty-five districts of Bengal is a little less than a million and a half of persons (1,468,876), the figures ranging from 3,051,966 (Mymensingh) to 101,597 (Chittagong Hill Tracts). The districts which to the furthest extent exceed or fall below this mean are detailed in the margin; and a reference to the area of the different districts in Table I, as well as to those mentioned in paragraph 54 above, will show that it does not at all follow that the largest districts in area sustain the most numerous population. The subject will be treated more fully below in dealing with the density of the population. Nine districts have a population of more than two million souls, while only seven fall below three quarters of a million. It will be observed that out of the first six large districts four are in the Patna Division.

Most Populous Districts.		Least Populous Districts.	
Mymensingh ...	3,051,966	Chittagong Hill Tracts.	101,597
Durbhunga ...	2,683,447	Darjeeling ...	155,179
Mozufferpore ...	2,582,600	Singbhoom ...	453,775
Midnapore ...	2,517,802	Julpigoree ...	581,562
Sarun	2,280,382	Howrah	635,381
Gya	2,124,682	Maldah	710,448
Dacca	2,116,350	Bogra	734,358
Rungpore	2,097,964		
Nuddea	2,017,847		

65. The average population of a Bengal subdivision, to continue the calculation, is 487,762, and that of a police thannah is 108,026. These figures, however, are only true in a very general way, for it is obvious that the conditions of the different thannahs vary very much where they are so numerous, and that the similarity is only one of nomenclature between a thannah in the Chota Nagpore Division the size of an English county and half covered with jungle, and the few acres swarming with human life which compose a municipal thannah in the crowded native quarter of our great cities. Sub-division and thannah.

66. The comparison which was instituted in paragraph 57 above between the area of different parts of the great tract of country which constitutes the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal and various countries of Europe, with the general size of which the average reader is familiar, can be advantageously repeated in respect of their population; and if surprise has been caused by the great extent of Bengal, it will be increased when the population of the whole country and of its various sections is compared with that of countries which are usually acknowledged to be of the first class in the hierarchy of nations. The total of inhabitants in the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal being 69,536,861, they exceed in number the population of any European nation except Russia; they do not fall far short of the total population of France and the United Kingdom added together, and they exceed by 50 per cent the population of the Great German empire, and by 38 per cent that of the United States of America. The population of Bengal proper falls short by half a million only of that of the whole of the United Kingdom. Behar supports a population larger than that of Spain and Portugal, and not much less than that of England and Wales. The Uriyas are exactly as numerous as the inhabitants of Scotland; and the mixed multitude which dwells in the districts of the Chota Nagpore Division are very nearly as many as the whole population of Canada and other British possessions in North America. Comparative statistics of population in Bengal and elsewhere.

67. The Commissioner of the Patna Division rules the fortunes of nearly thrice as many persons as the King of the Belgians or the Khedive of Egypt. The Chittagong Division, which is the smallest in Bengal in point of numbers, has a population nearly twice that of Norway, and the total of the Feudatory States is just that of the continent of Australia. Every other Division contains a population which takes an intermediate place between that of European Turkey and of the Kingdom of Belgium. The average Bengal district has a population equal to that of the Grand Duchy of Baden, the Irish province of Leinster, the English county of Surrey, or the State of Virginia. For the larger districts few parallels can be found in the United Kingdom; but Mymensingh (3,051,966) has its counterpart in the great States of Illinois (3,077,871) and Ohio (3,198,062), and the county of Lancaster (3,454,225) with its great commercial cities and swarming manufacturing population. Middlesex (2,918,814) and Yorkshire (2,886,309) have more inhabitants than any Bengal district, except Mymensingh; but while the number of districts in these provinces with more than one million inhabitants is thirty-five, there are only four counties in England, viz. Lancashire, Yorkshire, Middlesex, and Surrey, which exceed that total. Indeed the counterpart in Bengal of the British county is not the *district*, but the *subdivision*. The average population of the 135 subdivisions in Bengal, omitting from consideration the Feudatory States, Angul, Banki, and the purely urban population of Calcutta and its Suburbs, is 487,762 souls. In England and Wales each county contains on an average 499,390 persons; but if the purely metropolitan county of Middlesex be omitted from the calculation, as Calcutta and its Suburbs have been, the average population of each county becomes 451,950: so that the Sub-divisional Officer in Bengal is entrusted with the supervision of a larger number of persons than the Lord Lieutenant of an English county.

68. But separate statistics of area and population, though interesting and useful for general reference or for special purposes, yield in importance to those which are produced by a combination of them both. While the difference in area between province and province and between one district and another is so great as it is in Bengal, comparatively little advantage can be gained by comparing together the absolute population of each. But if the density of population in each be calculated by dividing the total population by the area, we have at once a common ground on which all the different units can be Density of population.

arranged and a ready method of ascertaining their numerical importance and their relative positions in the State. Before entering, however, into the question of the relation of population to area, two preliminary considerations should be stated. In the first place it is obvious that in a report like the present, treating of so great a territory and so vast a population, it is quite impossible that the unit taken for examination should be any small portion of the whole. Were this done the mind would be confused by the mass of figures, which would at once be unwieldy for the writer to handle and confusing for the reader to follow. In this difficulty the Magistrate's district seemed to afford the most suitable unit—from the number of them, from their well-understood boundaries, and from their convenient and fairly uniform size. Accordingly the district has been taken as the lowest unit for general examination, and no smaller unit than that appears in the imperial tables. It is equally obvious, however, that in a tract of country more than 3,000 square miles in extent (that being the average area of a district) the conditions of life vary to an enormous extent, and that the figures which a mathematical process may produce, though perfectly correct for the whole, may not be exactly true for any part of it. There is hardly a district in Bengal which does not exhibit violent extremes of this character, for the same Collectorate will show a dense population in the bazaars of its principal town, while a few miles off leagues of swamp are devoted to rice or jute without a single habitation in view. It may have here its swarming agricultural village and there its miles of jungle, now its busy riverside mart and anon its stretches of rock and hill top. Were it possible to accept a lower unit, the figures for the thannahs of Bengal would more closely represent the truth; but, as already stated, their number renders their employment out of the question, and all that can be done is to print the statistics for units smaller than that of the district in a separate series of tables, that they may be available for any more detailed investigation that may be undertaken at some future time. It will therefore be understood that the statistics quoted for each district only represent the mean of the several portions of which it is composed, and that if further details for these separate portions are desired reference must be made to Table No. XXII in Appendix C.

69. In the next place the correct appreciation of the relative density of the population in different districts is liable to be complicated by the ratio which the urban bears to the aggregate population of each. In no part of the world perhaps has this consideration less force than in these provinces, for few countries with so dense a population are so entirely rural as Bengal; yet a glance at Table No. I will show that in nearly every district there is a town population, and that it sometimes amounts to a considerable part of the whole. To avoid confusion, therefore, and to arrive at some definite idea of the density of the population over by far the greater portion of the area of Bengal, it will be necessary to deal first with the density of the population in *villages*, excluding under the title of urban population all that which dwells in places containing 5,000 inhabitants or more. The density of the town population and of the general district population, wherever found, will be discussed below; but for the present the village population alone will be made the subject of enquiry.

Density of the village population.

70. The total village population in Bengal, including the Feudatory States, amounts to 65,558,430 persons, or 94·27 per cent of the whole population, and these figures yield an average density among the villages of 352·37 persons to the square mile. This average density, however, varies enormously in each district, as is shown in the subjoined table, which gives for each district the density of its town and of its village population, shows the rank held by each district according to each of these statistics, and quotes the figures for the most populous and the least populous thannah in each.

No. 1.—*Statement comparing the Density of the Population in each District.*

Districts.	Density per Square Mile.						
	In Towns.	In Villages.	Whole district.	Rank according to village density.	Rank according to total density.	Most populous thannah.	Least populous thannah.
Burdwan	2,426·57	*495·51*	516·06	*18*	21	*993·82*	215·41
Bankoorah	4,900·75	*376·70*	397·46	*35*	37	*714·02*	274·64
Beerbhoom	6,928·00	*445·02*	452·40	*30*	33	*573·69*	370·15
Midnapore	3,552·30	*480·30*	495·44	*23*	24	*1,108·36*	194·23
Hooghly	2,373·62	*737·43*	828·10	*5*	7	*3,106·55*	556·30
Howrah	9,564·18	*1,130·53*	1,334·83	*1*	3	*1,443·56*	1,027·78
Burdwan Division ...	*3,409·70*	*502·78*	*533·67*	iv	iv	*3,106·55*	*194·23*
24-Pergunnahs	2,337·19	*679·06*	771·78	*11*	9	*4,283·14*	182·06
Suburbs	10,797·87	.....	10,932·13	.....	2	**49·44*	*5·88
Calcutta	50,627·37	.....	54,152·37	.....	1	**208·47*	*25·87
Nuddea	3,631·52	*559·44*	592·79	*14*	16	*1,247·41*	435·96
Jessore	1,723·64	*682·53*	692·90	*10*	13	*854·50*	560·71
Khulna	1,169·84	*492·53*	519·96	*20*	20	*914·58*	318·38
Moorshedabad	1,937·80	*535·07*	572·20	*16*	17	*1,641·22*	304·97
Presidency Division ...	*4,562·62*	*587·31*	*682·09*	ii	i	*4,283·14*	*5·88*
Dinagepore	2,512·00	*364·68*	397·74	*37*	40	*2,162·83*	240·52
Rajshahye	3,457·10	*551·23*	566·98	*15*	18	*865·99*	253·17
Rungpore	769·82	*591·97*	601·83	*13*	15	*761·95*	436·76
Bogra	3,382·00	*482·51*	490·23	*22*	27	*646·50*	318·69
Pubna	9,076·00	*688·63*	710·19	*9*	12	*1,077·08*	417·98
Darjeeling	1,578·71	*117·46*	125·75	*46*	47	*233·36*	20·10
Julpigoree	2,645·33	*198·94*	201·65	*42*	44	*621·50*	49·44
Rajshahye Division ...	*1,223·09*	*433·52*	*443·76*	v	v	*2,162·83*	*26·10*
Dacca	14,696·14	*713·19*	756·65	*6*	10	*1,359·53*	284·56
Furreedpore	1,836·06	*704·38*	719·78	*8*	11	*959·03*	475·92
Backergunge	1,007·74	*508·94*	520·93	*17*	19	*1,014·12*	193·21
Mymensingh	1,043·47	*475·33*	485·44	*27*	29	*898·03*	265·82
Dacca Division ...	*2,392·82*	*562·62*	*580·06*	iii	iii	*1,359·53*	*193·21*
Chittagong	4,222·00	*430·08*	* 441·11	*32*	36	*1,417·96*	119·80
Noakholly	2,562·00	*495·49*	500·17	*19*	23	*834·18*	217·81
Tipperah	2,054·00	*597·39*	609·03	*12*	14	*774·36*	440·97
Chittagong Hill Tracts	.....	*17·67*	18·75	*51*	53	.....	.....
Chittagong Division ..	*2,663·74*	*288·42*	*294·94*	viii	viii	*1,417·96*	*119·80*
All Bengal Proper ...	*3,060·89*	*475·54*	*505·57*	ii	ii	*4,283·14*	*26·10*

* Per acre, not per square mile.

No. 1.—*Statement comparing the Density of the Population in each District*—continued.

Districts.	Density per Square Mile.						
	In Towns.	In Villages.	Whole district.	Rank according to village density.	Rank according to total density.	Most populous thannah.	Least populous thannah.
Patna	4,988·73	*704·68*	845·05	*7*	6	*2,704·48*	582·76
Gya	4,222·03	*425·07*	450·91	*33*	34	*717·37*	273·33
Shahabad	4,067·63	*424·02*	450·15	*34*	35	*917·80*	187·99
Mozufferpore	2,404·76	*824·58*	859·83	*3*	5	*988·68*	691·28
Durbhunga	4,089·27	*763·40*	789·64	*4*	8	*1,035·45*	590·50
Sarun	2,426·36	*843·16*	869·71	*2*	4	*1,240·46*	689·30
Chumparun	2,246·90	*477·00*	487·57	*25*	28	*814·62*	198·45
Patna Division ...	*3,540·51*	*601·07*	*637·03*	i	ii	*2,704·48*	*187·99*
Monghyr	8,900·60	*479·33*	502·37	*24*	22	*4,956·00*	226·20
Bhaugulpore	7,391·00	*443·34*	466·67	*31*	31	*872·00*	120·38
Purneah	581·41	*369·10*	373·02	*36*	39	*499·09*	212·82
Maldah	4,231·00	*362·90*	375·70	*38*	38	*664·41*	199·69
Sonthal Pergunnahs	4,086·20	*283·54*	287·41	*40*	42	.....	....
Bhaugulpore Division ...	*2,178·02*	*382·31*	*393·48*	vii	vii	*4,956·00*	*120·38*
All Behar ...	*3,147·81*	*499·15*	*523·96*	i	i	*4,956·00*	*120·38*
Cuttack	4,639·00	*475·75*	494·22	*26*	25	*874·05*	234·57
Pooree	7,365·00	*350·43*	353·27	*39*	41	*697·79*	149·80
Balasore	2,533·12	*448·80*	457·54	*29*	32	*592·24*	267·66
Angul	.....	*115·19*	115·67	*47*	49	.....	.....
Banki	.....	*487·32*	490·52	*21*	26	.....	.....
Orissa ...	*4,305·58*	*400·28*	*412·10*	vi iii	vi iii	*874·05*	*149·80*
Hazaribagh	8,638·00	*152·51*	157·35	*43*	45	*245·59*	89·47
Lohardugga	2,527·64	*130·82*	133·60	*44*	46	*248·40*	48·73
Singbhoom	6,006·00	*119·34*	120·01	*45*	48	*144·47*	108·77
Manbhoom	1,523·92	*251·19*	255·18	*41*	43	*376·26*	138·62
Chota Nagpore ...	*2,992·38*	*153·35*	*156·72*	ix iv	ix iv	*376·26*	*48·73*
All Bengal ...	3,116·27	419·82	442·87	.....	.....	4,956·00	26·10
Cooch Behar	4,767·50	*454·17*	461·07	*28*	30	*576·24*	348·56
Hill Tipperah	.....	*23·41*	23·41	*50*	52	.....	.....
Tributary States, Orissa	5,543·00	*96·35*	96·74	*48*	50	*431·52*	29·83
Ditto, Chota Nagpore ...	.....	*42·23*	42·23	*49*	51	*214·67*	14·86
Feudatory States ...	*5,026·00*	*77·24*	*77·67*	x v	x v	*576·24*	*14·86*
All Bengal, including Feudatory States.	3,121·15	352·37	371·41	.....	.....	4,956·00	14·86

71. The province of Behar stands first with a mean density of rural inhabitants of 499·15 to the square mile. Bengal proper with 475·54 is not far behind, and is followed by Orissa with 400·28, Chota Nagpore with 153·35, and the Tributary States with 77·24. Of the administrative Divisions, Patna takes first place with the enormous population of 601·07 persons to each of its 23,363 square miles of rural area, the Presidency Division comes second with 587·31, Dacca third with 562·62, and the Burdwan Division fourth with 502·78. Both the Rajshahye and Orissa Divisions have more than 400 to the square mile; Bhaugulpore has 382·31, Chittagong 288·42. Chota Nagpore has more than 150, and it is only the Tributary States which have less than 100 per square mile. Looking next to the districts of Bengal, it will be seen that the district which has the densest village population is Howrah, with 1,130·53 souls to the square mile. This, however, is a population which hardly answers the description of true rusticity, being composed in large part of the inhabitants of the crowded villages which cluster round the large mills and factories of the Howrah district or line the river banks and form the outer fringe of the great Suburb of Howrah, though outside the pale of the municipality. For a truly rural population we must look lower down the list, to the districts of the Patna Division, which stand next in order, Sarun with 843 inhabitants to the square mile, Mozufferpore with 824, and Durbhunga with 763. This swarming crowd is almost entirely agricultural, in the sense that it is non-manufacturing; and the figures bring us face to face with some of the most difficult problems of Indian administration, viz. how to protect this dense agricultural population from the periodical failure of their crops, how to encourage their emigration, how, in a word, to ameliorate their condition so that, while the pressure on the soil is relieved, the cultivator shall receive his fair share of the profits while the landlord is paid a reasonable rent with punctuality. Next to these districts comes Hooghly, with a pressure in its villages of 737 persons to the square mile. Here, however, as in Howrah, the partition between some of the villages and the usual acceptation of a town is very thin, and their population is only partially rustic. Sixth on the list stands the rich district of Dacca, with 713 to the square mile, followed by Patna which, even excluding its great city, has a density of 704 persons to the square mile, and by Furreedpore, with the same number. Eight districts, therefore, in these provinces have a village population of more than 700 souls to the square mile, and the mean of the eight districts reaches the astonishing figure of 802·66.

72. Three districts—Pubna (688), Jessore (682), and the 24-Pergunnahs (679)—have a village density of 600 and more. Six more have a density of more than 500, viz. Tipperah (597), Rungpore (591), Nuddea (559), Rajshahye (551), Moorshedabad (535), and Backergunge (508). Between 400 and 500 persons to the square mile are found in the village area of sixteen districts, viz. Burdwan (495), Noakholly (495), Khulna (492), Bogra (482), Midnapore (480), Monghyr (479), Chumparun (477), Cuttack (475), Mymensingh (475), Cooch Behar (454), Balasore (448), Beerbhoom (445), Bhaugulpore (443), Chittagong (430), Gya (425), and Shahabad (424).

73. Five districts have a village population of between 300 and 400 to the square mile, viz. Bankoora (376), Purneah (369), Dinagepore (364), Maldah (362), and Pooree (350). Between 200 and 300 villagers are found to the square mile in only two districts, viz. Santhal Pergunnahs (283) and Manbhoom (251). In the class which has an average village density between 100 and 200 there are Julpigoree (198), Hazaribagh (152), Lohardugga (130), Singbhoom (119), and Darjeeling (117)—five districts in all; while in the lowest class, which contains those tracts which have fewer than 100 inhabitants to the square mile, are the Tributary States of Orissa (96), Tributary States of Chota Nagpore (42), Hill Tipperah (23), and the Chittagong Hill Tracts (17). From these calculations the little territories of Angul and Banki have been excluded.

74. These figures enable us to divide all the districts of Bengal into three great groups in respect of the density of their village population. The first group, which embraces all the districts named in the margin, includes all those which have a population of 500 or more to the square mile. With the exception of Hooghly and Howrah, where the village population is not really rustic, these districts contain amongst them some of the most largely

Howrah.	Pubna.
Sarun.	Jessore.
Mozufferpore.	24-Pergunnahs.
Durbhunga.	Tipperah.
Hooghly.	Rungpore.
Dacca.	Nuddea.
Patna.	Rajshahye.
Furreedpore.	Moorshedabad.
Backergunge.	

agricultural districts of these provinces; and as a reference to Table No. XXI, column 9, will show, the agricultural population in each of them, except Patna, Nuddea, and Moorshedabad, is estimated to be not less than 50 per cent of the whole population of the district. Here the pressure on the soil is very great, every acre of land is occupied, and the possibility of expansion, either of population or cultivation, is small.

75. In the second group will be found those districts which have an average density of the village population of from 200 to 500 souls per square mile. They are detailed in the margin, and it will be observed that in each of them some obstacle exists to the attainment of excessive density of population over their whole area, although in parts of each district where these obstacles do not occur the population is extremely dense. Thus hills and forest lands still unreclaimed are found in Midnapore and Monghyr, in Chumparun and Chittagong, in Gya and Shahabad, and in the Sonthal Pergunnahs and Manbhoom. The districts of the Orissa Division have long stretches of sandy coast, great wastes of low land inundated annually by the spill of their rivers, innumerable spurs of forest-clad hills, and miles of swampy jungle, where the great rivers of the province discharge their contents into the sea: elsewhere vast plains of grass, or great patches of forest, the swamps of the Sundarbuns or the deadly jungle of the Terai, debar human habitation, though they are yielding slowly to enterprise and cultivation.

Burdwan.
Noakholly.
Khulna.
Bogra.
Midnapore.
Monghyr.
Chumparun.
Cuttack.
Mymensingh.
Cooch Behar.
Balasore.
Beerbhoom.
Bhaugulpore.
Chittagong.
Gya.
Shahabad.
Bankoora.
Purneah.
Dinagepore.
Maldah.
Pooree.
Sonthal Pergunnahs.
Manbhoom.

76. The third group of districts embraces those in which the density of village population is less than 200 per square mile, where the scanty population is at once the cause and the effect of the conditions under which they live. Such are Julpigoree, where until lately almost the whole district was abandoned to the heavy jungle of the Terai or interminable savannahs of tall grass—a land soaked with malaria and once held almost certainly fatal to human life. Such, too, was Darjeeling, where, though British industry and capital have turned the steep and densely-wooded slopes of the Himalayas into thriving tea plantations, much of the area of the district is necessarily thinly peopled. In the districts of the Chota Nagpore Division and the Tributary States of Chota Nagpore and Orissa much waste land abounds, which only needs a larger population to bring it into cultivation. Here inaccessibility of situation has for centuries prevented the development of one of the richest parts of the country; but with improved means of communication and the introduction of European wealth, knowledge, and energy, one cannot doubt that an outlet will be found for the surplus population of districts which the railway will then bring near, that the axe will clear the way for the plough, and that under a wise land law the mixed peasantry of Chota Nagpore will emulate the prosperity without developing the vices of those of the Eastern Delta. In the remaining districts much still remains to be done before their population attains to anything like the numbers or the prosperity which marks those districts which have been longer under the influence of British rule. In another part of this report it is pointed out that the increase in the population since the last census has been greatest in those districts which were most backward; and it is stated that a considerable part of this advance was due to more accurate enumeration at the present than at the preceding census. No doubt the census of 1891 will be more accurately taken than the census of 1881; and no doubt this greater accuracy will be a larger factor in the increase in these backward districts than elsewhere: yet it will certainly be the case that the actual advance in them will be the greatest, and, special circumstances apart, it may confidently be expected that the ratio of increase in each district will, on the whole, vary inversely with the present density of its population.

Julpigoree.
Hazaribagh.
Lohardugga.
Singbhoom.
Darjeeling.
Tributary States of Orissa.
Tributary States of Chota Nagpore.
Hill Tipperah.
Chittagong Hill Tracts.

Bengal compared with other countries in respect of density of its rural population.

77. A comparison of these figures for the density of the rural population with those found elsewhere will demonstrate very clearly how thickly rural Bengal is inhabited. With the English rural population no comparison is possible, as the population of England and Wales is so largely gathered into towns, while

in Ireland and Scotland natural features separate widely the non-urban population. But Belgium and France are countries which have a very large rural population, and some comparison can be instituted with the figures which they yield. Of the whole population of France 68·94 per cent, or nearly 7 out of every 10 persons, are found in the country as opposed to the town. Large cities in several departments unduly raise the mean density of the whole; and as the report on the census of France in 1872 supplies no separate figures for the density of the rural and the urban population, the only method of judging of the density of the village population in that country is to examine the statistics for those departments which have a dense population of which the majority is at the same time rural. Such a department is the well-known one of Côtes du Nord, in which 91·58 per cent of the population are returned as rural, and which stands thirteenth on the list of the French Departments in order of density of population; yet even here the population per square mile is only 170. In Finisterre, of which 78·27 per cent of the inhabitants are rural, the density is 239 per square mile; and in another Northern Department, Manche, where the rural population compose 79·36 per cent of the whole, the density is 233. In the United States of America, on the other hand, where the great extent of area over which it is spread reduces the density of the population, an average of from 18 to 45 souls to the square mile is held to "indicate a highly successful agriculture:" so that it may be said that the average density of the village population in Bengal, being 352 per square mile, is ten times as great as that of the best cultivated parts of the American continent.

	Country.	Year of enumeration.	Population per square mile.
1.	Belgium	1879	486
2.	England and Wales	1881	445
3.	Bengal (without Feudatory States)	1881	442
4.	North-Western Provinces (without Native States).	1881	415
5.	Saxony	1875	407
6.	North-Western Provinces (with Native States).	1881	403
7.	Bengal (with Feudatory States).	1881	371
8.	Madras (without Native States).	1881	249
9.	Wurtemburg	1875	245
10.	Italy	1872	238
11.	Alsace-Lorraine	1875	227
12.	Madras (with Native States) ...	1881	221
13.	Prussia	1875	187
14.	Holland	1869	185
15.	Bombay (without Sind) ...	1881	184
16.	France	1876	180
17.	Austria	1876	175
18.	Punjab (without Native States)	1881	175
19.	Switzerland	1876	171
20.	Bavaria	1875	170
21.	Ireland	1881	159
22.	Punjab (with Native States) ...	1881	158
23.	Bombay (with Sind) ...	1881	132
24.	Denmark	1870	129
25.	Hungary	1876	124
26.	Scotland	1881	123
27.	Portugal	1875	111
28.	Contral Provinces	1881	100
29.	Spain	1876	92
30.	Greece	1879	73
31.	Russia (in Europe)	1870	34
32.	Sweden	1878	26
33.	Norway	1877	14

Density of general population in Bengal and elsewhere.

78. The general density of the population in each district, including that of both towns and villages, differs very little, as Table I will show, from the density of the village population, except in those few districts which contain very large towns; and the relative position of the different districts to each other is much the same, whether their whole population, or that of the villages alone, be considered. The map, therefore, which is appended to this Chapter may be taken as exhibiting pretty closely the facts for either class. In it the districts are divided into five groups, according to the comparative density of the population in each, and the map is coloured accordingly.

79. The figures in the margin show the relation of area to population in different parts of India, and in some of the chief European countries; and when it is borne in mind how much the great cities of Europe assist in raising the general density of population in each state, the pressure of the population on the land of a country which has hardly any towns will be more easily realized.

Towns and villages.

80. The statistics in the foregoing paragraphs will have prepared the way for the conclusion that one of the most remarkable features in the distribution of the population in Bengal is the small number of towns and large villages in the province. To decide what places should be treated as "towns" was one of the many initial difficulties of compilation. At the census of 1872 all those places were considered as towns which had a population of 5,000 or more inhabitants, irrespective of the extent of the site, the employment of the inhabitants, or the municipal constitution of the community. Moreover, this somewhat unsatisfactory classification was rendered still more unreliable by the confusion which sprang up in the use of the word "village," which, while it was properly understood in some districts to signify the *inhabited village* or collection of houses, was interpreted in others to mean the *survey village* or "mouzah," *i.e.* the lands belonging to a village entered in the survey list, and thus often extending over a large area and embracing more than one residential village. This source of error has, it is believed, been entirely avoided on the occasion of the census just taken; but its existence at that of 1872 has in a great measure vitiated any comparison which might be instituted between the population of individual villages in 1872 and in 1881. However, to enable this comparison to be made, it was ordained that all those places should be treated as towns which contained 5,000 inhabitants or more. After considerable correspondence with the Census Commissioner this general rule was made subject to the proviso that from the list were to be excluded all those places which, though reaching the necessary numerical standard, were still in no sense towns; and that to it were to be added all those places which enjoyed a municipal constitution, even though the number of their inhabitants was less than 5,000. The case of each large village and town the circumstances of which were at all doubtful was separately referred to the Magistrate of the district in which it was situate, and the position of each place in the list of towns and villages was decided upon its merits. But exactly the same principle has not been followed in all the tables. The statements which give details for the population of towns, and of the town as distinguished from the village population, are Nos. I, XII, XVIII, XIX, XX, and XXIX. In Table XVIII the strictly *numerical* classification has been adhered to; in Tables XIX and XX figures for those towns only have been given which fulfil all the conditions of a town, viz. the possession of more than 5,000 inhabitants and a municipal organisation, or at least a really urban population; lastly, in Tables I, XII, and XXIX, the population shown as urban is that of all those places which have a municipal organisation, or have been reported to be really urban, irrespective of the numbers of their inhabitants. This explanation will account for the discrepancies which will be noticed between the number of towns in Tables XIX and XX on the one hand, where it is given as 200, and in Table XVIII on the other, where the number of places with a population of 5,000 or more is 242; and it will also account for the fact that, whereas the population of the towns in Tables XIX and XX is 3,588,639, the town population in Tables Nos. XII and XXIX is 3,695,517. In Table No. I the town population is 3,664,229, as it does not include the boat and railway population of Calcutta and the Suburbs, which are included in Tables XII and XXIX. It may seem inconvenient to have interpreted the term in three different ways in these tables, but no other course seemed suitable. One uniform interpretation was impossible; and it will be found that the meaning given in each case is that which accords best with the prominent idea of the table. Thus in Tables Nos. I, XII, and XXIX the leading idea being social and economical, viz. the contrast between the village folk and the townfolk, the population of those places which are really of an urban character was taken irrespective of the size of each town: in Table No. XVIII, however, the interest being purely statistical, the hard-and-fast line which figures draw was not interfered with: while, lastly, the object in Tables XIX and XX being to give details of the population in large places, of whatever character, no consideration was given to the nature of the occupations in which their inhabitants were employed.*

Definition of a "town."

81. The same difficulty, but perhaps in a more marked degree, was experienced at the English census of 1871 and the American census in 1880. In

* NOTE.—In Appendix A will be found lists of the places included in Tables I, XII, and XIX, and in Table XVIII, which have been excluded from Tables XIX and XX.

England no attempt was made in the body of the Commissioners' report to distinguish between the different classes of towns, although a comprehensive series of tables in the Appendix exhibits details for the "cities, boroughs, districts under either a local board or an improvement commission, and small towns," which are all generally described as "towns" in the report. In the Report on the Tenth Census of the United States of America two tables are given—one for the sake of comparison with former figures, in which, for purposes of definition, the inferior numerical limit of a "town" is 8,000 persons, and another in which the town population is made to include that of those places which have 4,000 or more inhabitants. But the difficulty of finding any exhaustive definition, and the fallacy of one which depends on numbers only, is very clearly stated; the decision finally arrived at being that it was best "to follow the record and at each census to count that as a distinct city which was so recognised at the time."

Number and size of villages.

82. The number of separate towns and villages returned in Bengal at the census of 1881 was 264,765, or 74,542 more than were recorded at the census of 1872. The figures in the margin will show the number of villages in each group classified according to population, and the extent to which the number of villages in each group has increased or decreased during the nine years which elapsed between the two dates of enumeration. If we look only at that statement, it seems clear that the period in question has been marked by the rise of many small villages, the greatest numerical advance being visible in the first class—that of the smallest villages—and that there has been a tendency to forsake the large villages and smaller towns; while there are twelve more of the larger towns, with populations of 10,000 and upwards, than there were in 1872. Such a conclusion, however, would only be partly correct. It is true that the larger towns are for the most part steadily advancing in population (as a glance at Table No. XIX will show), and that "villages" are constantly springing up in new places; but there is no reason to believe that the population of towns of medium size is falling off. The real explanation of the great advance in the number of small villages is threefold: in the first place there undoubtedly has been an absolute increase in their numbers; secondly, the more searching enquiries which preceded the present census discovered many small villages which, though certainly in existence in 1872, had then escaped enumeration; and, lastly, it is the fact that the word "village" seems to have had a somewhat different meaning at the two censuses, or rather that its meaning was more accurately explained in 1881 than in 1872. It has already been stated that the "village" in 1872 included the great survey area as well as the true residential village, and that pains were taken in 1881 to prevent the recurrence of this error; but, further than this, many outlying hamlets, which in 1872 were returned as parts of the nearest large village, have at the late census been shown as separate villages. The references from district officers on this subject were very numerous, but the principle adopted throughout was that which it seems was also employed by the American Census Authorities, and district officers were told to record as separate villages "those which had a distinct name or were locally considered to be independent villages." The result is that it is now impossible to make any exact comparison between the number and size of the villages at each census, or to ascertain from the figures in Table No. XIX to what extent the number of

No. 2.—Statement comparing the Number and Size of Villages in 1872 and 1881.

Groups.	1872.	1881.	Difference.
1. With less than 200 inhabitants ...	105,770	165,263	+59,493
2. „ from 200 to 500 inhabitants	52,531	67,307	+14,776
3. „ „ 500 „ 1,000 „	21,774	23,561	+1,787
4. „ „ 1,000 „ 2,000 „	7,871	6,994	—877
5. „ „ 2,000 „ 3,000 „	1,398	1,058	—340
6. „ „ 3,000 „ 5,000 „	616	340	—276
7. „ „ 5,000 „ 10,000 „	179	146	—33
8. „ „ 10,000 „ 15,000 „	42	49	+7
9. „ „ 15,000 „ 20,000 „	8	14	+6
10. „ „ 20,000 „ 50,000 „	23	22	—1
11. With more than 50,000 inhabitants ...	11	11	.....
Total ...	*190,223*	*264,765*	*+74,542*

petty villages has advanced ; so that we must wait till the taking of another census for a solution of the question.

83. Taking the absolute figures as they stand, however, it will be observed that a very large proportion, or 62·41 per cent, of the whole number of towns and villages in Bengal belongs to the first or smallest class, while more than two-thirds of the remainder, or 25·42 per cent of the whole, belong to the second class; so that out of all the villages and towns in the province 232,570, or 87·83 per cent, are little hamlets with less than 500 inhabitants, while the number of towns with more than 5,000 inhabitants is only 242, or 9 in 10,000 of all the towns and villages. The abstract in the margin shows the proportionate number of the villages of each class in each of the great Bengal provinces. Bengal proper, as was to be expected, shows the highest percentage of large towns ; and while Behar has exactly the average of the whole Presidency in this respect, all the other provinces are far below it. In Orissa and Chota Nagpore the villages are smaller than anywhere else ; those with less than 200 inhabitants amounting in those provinces to more than three-fourths of the whole number, while in Behar the villages proper, as distinguished from the towns, are larger than elsewhere, the very smallest class being only 56·47 per cent of the whole.

No. 3.—Statement showing the Percentage of each Class of Village in each Province of Bengal.

Class.		Percentages.					
		Bengal.	Behar.	Orissa.	Chota Nagpore.	Tributary States.	All Bengal.
Villages.	I—(less than 200 inhabitants).	57·06	56·47	78·29	78·79	75·80	62·41
	II—200 to 500 ...	28·12	28·00	18·34	17·57	18·43	25·42
	III—500 to 1,000	10·61	11·32	2·99	3·08	4·33	8·89
	IV—1,000 to 2,000	3·35	3·43	·32	·43	1·19	2·64
	V—2,000 to 3,000	·53	·50	.....	·05	·14	·39
	VI—3,000 to 5,000	·18	·18	.....	·02	·05	·12
Towns		·12	·09	·02	·03	·03	·09
Total ...		100	100	100	100	100	100

Average population of villages in Bengal,

84. The same point is brought out if all those places with a population of 5,000 or more are omitted and a calculation is made of the mean population of all the smaller places. The figures in the margin give the provincial details, and show that the average size of a village in Bengal and Behar is much the same, but much larger than in the three other provinces, where as yet the population is entirely agricultural and large centres of trade or manufacture are unknown.

	Number of villages with less than 5,000 inhabitants.	Total village population.	Average per village.
Bengal	117,149	33,152,481	282·99
Behar	77,330	21,833,006	282·33
Orissa	24,889	3,613,288	145·17
Chota Nagpore	29,102	4,130,206	141·92
Tributary States	16,053	2,829,449	176·25
All Bengal ...	264,523	65,558,430	247·83

and elsewhere in India.

85. If the same calculation be repeated, it will be found that the villages of Bengal are on the whole much smaller than those of other provinces in India. The statistics in the margin demonstrate this fact, and show that if the basis of enumeration be the same the average Bengal village is not half so populous as that of Western or Southern India. That the latter are much larger was well known, but the greatness of the difference in size is surprising.

	Number of villages with less than 5,000 inhabitants.	Total village population.	Average per village.
Madras	52,151	28,143,573	539·65
Bombay	37,511	19,580,777	522·00
Punjab	52,670	20,196,990	383·46
North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	108,445	40,473,668	373·21
Bengal	264,523	65,558,430	247·83

86. That peculiar feature of rural life in India which consists in the agglomeration of the population into compact villages and the almost entire absence of the outlying homesteads, farms, and cottages, which shelter so considerable a portion of the population in a European country, render it impossible to institute any comparison between the English and the Indian village. The only parallel that can be drawn is that between the urban population of this and of other provinces and countries ; and, as has already been stated, the result of the comparison is to show that Bengal possesses,

both absolutely and in comparison with other countries, an extraordinarily small number of towns. In Madras out of 52,648 places of all sizes 497, or ·93 per cent of the whole, have 5,000 or more inhabitants; in Bombay ·73 per cent of all the villages and towns come under the latter category; in the Punjab the percentage is ·37; in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh it is ·27; but in Bengal it is only ·09, or less than 1 in 1,000. Looking abroad, we find that whereas in Bengal the number of towns is only 242, the United States of America, where the population, like that of Bengal, is very largely rural, has 286 towns with more than 8,000 inhabitants, and 294 more with a population between 4,000 and 8,000. If we assume that 100 of these towns have a population ranging between 4,000 and 5,000, we get 480 as the total of all towns with 5,000 inhabitants or more; that is to say, in a country with a population about two-thirds that of Bengal, the number of towns is twice as great. With England, of course, the disparity is greater still. Out of the 938 places which the Registrar-General denominates towns, 441 have 5,000 or more inhabitants; so that Bengal, which has a population nearly three times as large as that of England and Wales, has about half the number of towns.

Relative size of large towns in Bengal.

87. Even when the people are collected into cities, the aggregation is never so great as in Europe. Bengal has only 33 towns with more than 20,000 inhabitants, whereas in England and Wales alone at the census of 1871 there were found 103 cities which exceeded that standard. In Bengal, again, only 11 cities have a population of more than 50,000 persons; in the United Kingdom in 1871 the number was 41. No city in Bengal approaches in population the metropolis of the United Kingdom, for the inhabitants of London in 1881 were found to number 3,814,517, thus exceeding the population of the 19 next largest English towns, and more than equalling the population of the whole Orissa Division. With the exception of London, however, no city in the British empire has so great a population as Calcutta, including in that term the Suburbs and the municipality of Howrah, which are as much a part of the great city as Lambeth or Chelsea are of London, and give it a gross population of 790,286. Even if it be reduced to the limits of the municipality, the city of Calcutta with 433,219 inhabitants is surpassed in the United Kingdom only by Liverpool (493,405) and Glasgow (477,956); the Suburbs with 251,439 souls stand next after Manchester (351,189), Birmingham (343,787), and Leeds (259,212), thus exceeding the population of Dublin (246,326). Between Dublin and Patna (170,654) stand Sheffield (239,946), Edinburgh (200,976), Bristol (187,552), and Belfast (174,412), to which great commercial city its numbers most nearly approach. Howrah (105,206) is a little less populous than Portsmouth in the south, or Oldham in the north of England. Dacca (79,076) is a little larger than Cork and a little smaller than the old cathedral town of Norwich. Gya (76,415) has almost exactly the same population as Blackburn, and Bhaugulpore (68,238) as Wolverhampton or Plymouth, though no places could be more dissimilar than these. Durbhunga (65,955) finds a counterpart in Devonport or Halifax, and Monghyr (55,372) in Croydon. Chuprah (51,670) has slightly fewer inhabitants than Bath or Merthyr Tydfill. Looking further afield we find that Calcutta, in its broadest sense, has a slightly smaller population than Jeddo (Tokio), while it comes between New York and Brooklyn. The Calcutta municipality alone is more populous than Rome, Madrid, Brussels, or Boston. The Suburbs take an intermediate position between Cincinnati and San Francisco in America, and between Marseilles and Bordeaux in France.

Urban population in Bengal and elsewhere.

88. The actual town population of Bengal appears from Table No. I of Appendix B to be 3,664,229, or about 5·26 per cent of the whole population of the province. This total is considerably less than that for London alone; and the smallness of the ratio it bears to the whole establishes again the fact, already several times stated, that the absence of towns in Bengal is one of the most remarkable features of the province. In the smallness of its urban population indeed, as in the number of its towns, Bengal stands last among all the great provinces of India; for while its urban population, as already stated above, is only 5·26 of the whole, the urban population of the Central Provinces is 6·04 per cent. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh

NOTE.—The figures for the population of towns in the United Kingdom have been taken from the report on the census of 1871.

it is 9·70 per cent; in Madras 9·71 per cent; in the Punjab 11·07 per cent; and in Bombay as high as 17·7 per cent. These figures compare curiously with those for other countries. In England and Wales the urban population in 1881 was 66·6 per cent, or exactly two-thirds of the whole; in America the urban population was found at the census of 1880 to be 22·5 per cent of the whole population; and in France at the census of 1872 it was 31·06 per cent. In this remarkable absence of urban population all the provinces of Bengal do not share to the same extent. Bengal proper includes the metropolis and the great towns of Dacca and Howrah, so that it possesses the highest percentage of urban population, viz. 6·13 per cent; in Behar are situate the city of Patna and the great towns of Bhaugulpore, Durbhunga, Monghyr, and Chuprah, which bring about for it a percentage of urban population of 5·43. In the other provinces no large towns are found; so that in Orissa only 3 per cent of the population is urban: in Chota Nagpore the percentage is 2·26, and in the Feudatory States the proportion is less than one-half per cent.

Urban population in 1872 and 1881.

89. In 1872 the number of towns with 5,000 or more inhabitants was 140, with a total urban population of 3,110,231 persons, or 4·96 per cent of the whole. The advance in the urban population, therefore, during the last nine years has been very slight, being the difference between 4·96 and 5·26 per cent of the whole. How slow this advance is compared with the advance in the growth of towns in other parts of the world the marginal figures will show.

Decadfs.	Percentage of Urban on Total Population.			
	England.	France.	America.	Bengal.
1851	.....	25·52	12·5	.....
1861	62·3	28·86	16·1	.....
1871	64·8	31·06	20·9	4·96
1881	66·6	.....	22·5	5·26

Shifting population

90. Besides the population reckoned in houses and buildings, there remains the multitude, absolutely great, though comparatively small, who were found travelling by rail, road, or water, or otherwise spending the night in the open air or in unusual places. Travellers by road, and other waifs and strays on land, have for the purposes of the imperial tables not been separately shown, but have been included in the population of the village and town nearest to which they were enumerated, though in the original tables they will be found totalled separately from the inhabitants. Travellers by rail, on the other hand, have, under the orders of the Census Commissioner, been shown in the aggregate separately for each district, and are not included in the total of any town, village, or thannah. Persons arriving from beyond seas during the few days succeeding the census night have been enumerated as part of the population of the port at which they first touched; and the boat population, on the analogy of the railway population, has been separately shown for each district, and will be found separately totalled in detail in the original forms for each thannah and subdivision.

Boat population.

91. Of these special classes of the population, the boat people are incomparably the most numerous. Taking the figures as they stand, it will be seen that the number of persons sleeping in boats on the census night was 309,336, or ·44 of the whole population. As was to be expected, their numbers and proportion to the whole are greatest in the eastern districts, where, for many months in the year, communications are almost entirely maintained by water, and where the inhabitants lead an amphibious existence from the cradle to the grave. The proportion is greatest in the city of Calcutta, where special pains were taken to secure the correct enumeration of the vast numbers of boats which lie along the banks of the Hooghly. The Chittagong Hill Tracts stand second,—thus proving that there is a considerable traffic by boat up the rivers of that district during the cold season. Khulna is third, with 3·70 per cent of its whole population enumerated in boats; and the 24-Pergunnahs, the Suburbs, Moorshedabad, Dacca, Backergunge, and Maldah, each have a boat population of more than 1 per cent. These figures, however, do not at all fairly represent the actual boating population of the country. The term "boat population," for the purpose of the census, included only those persons who were found sleeping in boats on the night of the census, and therefore excluded

all that very numerous class of boatmen who, though spending their time afloat, come ashore to sleep every night, or those travellers or boat traders who moor their boats to the bank at nightfall at some convenient village, and were thus enumerated among the village population. Nor does Table I give any information of the number of boats found. No special census of boats, as such, was ordered; and as only those boats were taken into consideration and counted which contained inmates on the census night, the number of boats returned was so obviously below the mark that the figures have not been collected.

Railway passengers.

92. The number of passengers travelling by rail in Bengal on the night of the census is extremely small. Many persons purposely abstained from travelling on that night, and therefore the number of passengers was much below the average. The whole number enumerated was only 4,866. In Howrah, Julpigoree, Shahabad, Monghyr, and the Sonthal Pergunnahs the numbers are somewhat large, because each of those districts contains a station where the passengers by night mail-trains were enumerated in the train on the morning succeeding the night of the census.

Statistics of houses,

93. The number of houses in Bengal is returned at 11,645,383, of which 11,036,774 were occupied and 608,609 unoccupied at the time of the census. This number gives an average of 6·30 persons to each occupied house, as against 5·75 at the census of 1872 in 10,903,435 houses. The average number of persons in each house varies very little indeed, being 6·29 in Bengal, 6·57 in Behar, 5·91 in Orissa, 6·32 in Chota Nagpore, and 6·30 in the Feudatory States. Even in the different districts the extreme range of variation is very small; and if we exclude Calcutta, where the figure is 12·54, the highest average of persons to a house is 9·44 in Noakholly, and the lowest 4·24 in Hooghly. In only four districts is the average above 8, and in four only is it below 5. In 1872 the variation was between 4·3 in Beerbhoom and 7·6 in Mymensingh. As in 1872, the density of population per house is greatest in the eastern districts, the Chittagong Division giving 7·25 and the Dacca Division 7·51 as the mean number of persons in a house. The closeness of the general results in 1872 and 1881 seems to show that much the same plan was followed upon both occasions; and although Mr. Beverley admits that in some cases the proper definition of a house was misunderstood, general accuracy seems to have been secured.

and their inmates.

Definition of a house.

94. At the census just taken great efforts were made to secure one uniform definition of the word "house," which should be suitable to the conditions of life all over India; but it soon became clear that no definition could be at once so general and so specific as to include the bamboo home of the Burman and the masonry castle of the Oudh talukdar, the three-storied lodging-house of Bombay and the solitary hut of the field watchman, and eventually much latitude was left to the local authorities in each province. In Bengal the following instructions were issued on the subject:—

"The Government of India have decided that the definition of a 'house' in the instructions to enumerators to be issued with the vernacular schedules shall be a 'building to which a number has previously been attached;' and it is therefore essentially necessary that you should now take steps to make your supervisors and sub-supervisors, and through them your enumerators, understand what they should consider to be a house, and that you should also arrange for having every house separately and clearly marked.

"The accepted definition of a house in Bengal is as follows, viz. '*the several buildings or rooms which go to make up the homestead, whether inhabited by one or more families*,' and this definition must be kept steadily in view, or great confusion must ensue. Thus the Englishman's bungalow, with its servants' houses in the same compound, will be numbered as one house; so will a *sarai* with its separate rooms for different families of travellers; and so will the single hut which holds the artisan's family. One important exception, however, must be made to this general rule, and that is in the case of large lodging-houses and similar buildings in towns, where several families, having no connection with each other, reside. In taking the Calcutta census of 1876 Mr. Beverley found that in each of so many as 6,262 houses more than three families were residing. To enter each of these buildings as one house would be obviously misleading; and the best way out of the difficulty in the case of buildings occupied by two or more totally unconnected families will be to number as a separate house each room, or set of rooms, inhabited by each family."

Other houses.

95. Besides the actual dwelling-houses, moreover, all public institutions, such as jails, hospitals, schools, police lines, and barracks, were treated as single houses, as were ghâts, temples, camping grounds, and other localities where persons might be found on the night of the census. The number of these

places, which are chiefly to be found among. the 533,649 unoccupied houses, was not, however, very large.

House density in Bengal and elsewhere.

96. But the wide difference in the meanings of the word "house" which the circumstances of the case necessitated renders it extremely difficult to institute a comparison between the numbers of persons in a house in Bengal and in other parts of the world. In these provinces, as has been said, each house is on the average inhabited by 6·30 persons; the number in a town-house being 5·32, and that in a house of the rural population 1 more, or 6·34. Assuming that the basis of definition and calculation was the same, the number of persons in a house is greater in Bengal than in any other part of India except the Punjab. In that province the average is 6·73; in the North-Western Provinces it is 6·4; in Bombay 5·82; in Madras 5·5; and in the Central Provinces 4·85. In European countries very similar averages are found, although the meaning of the term is widely different. In England and Wales the average number of persons found in each occupied house at the census of 1881 was 5·37, and in France in 1872 it was only 4·68. At the census of the latter country each building was treated as a house, irrespective of the number of families it contained; so that the average just quoted was raised considerably by the great three-storied piles of Paris, Lyons, and other cities of southern France. In the Department of the Seine the average number of persons living in each house was 21.

Ditto in towns and villages.

97. The number of persons in a house in towns is almost everywhere greater than the number of inhabitants of a house in the rural area. The fact would appear at first sight to be anomalous, but it is susceptible of an easy explanation. Towns contain a very large number of shops and other places which are inhabited by day and are therefore entered as houses, while at night they are altogether empty or tenanted by a solitary shopman or watchman. In the villages, on the other hand, ample space allows of the spread of the homestead; and although it is counted under the rules as one house only, it frequently contains a very large family. The same phenomenon is observable in the Punjab, and the explanation there is probably the same. In Madras and in the North-Western Provinces the number of persons in a house is the same for the urban and the rural population; but in Bombay alone the house density of the towns-people is markedly greater than that of the villagers.

98. The following table gives other useful statistics of area and population, calculated from the figures in Table No. 1.

No. 4.—Statement showing for each district Comparative Statistics of Area and Population.

District, Division, and Province.	Area.		Population.		Urban and Rural Population.					Remarks.
	Percentage of total.	Serial order.	Percentage of total.	Serial order.	Urban.	Rural.	Boat population.	Railway passenger.	Rank according to ratio of urban population.	
Burdwan	1·44	27	2·00	26	4·88	95·02	·08	·01	15	
Bankoorah	1·39	29	1·49	34	5·64	94·34	·01	.....	14	
Beerbhoom	0·93	43	0·14	39	1·74	98·25	.....	.....	28	
Midnapore	2·71	8	3·62	4	3·24	96·50	·25	.....	22	
Hooghly	·65	47	1·45	35	15·46	84·24	·25	·03	5	
Howrah	·25	50	·91	43	16·55	82·73	·64	·05	4	
Burdwan Division ...	***7·40***	VII	***10 63***	VI	***6·54***	***93·24***	***·19***	***·01***	III	
24-Pergunnahs	1·12	37	2·32	19	15·30	3·53	1·11	·03	6	
Suburbs	·01	52	·36	48	98·77	.....	1·19	·03	1	
Calcutta	·00	53	·62	47	93 49	.....	6·50	.....	2	
Nuddea	1·81	22	2·90	9	5·93	93·45	·59	.....	13	
Jessore	1·21	34	2·26	21	1·52	97·88	·58	.....	41	
Khulna	1·10	39	1·55	32	2·70	93·58	3·70	.....	26	
Moorshedabad	1·14	36	1·76	29	7·26	91·50	1·22	.....	7	
Presidency Division ...	***6·42***	IX	***11·79***	III	***14·18***	***84·27***	***1·53***	***·01***	I	
Dinagepore	2·19	14	2·17	24	·82	99·05	·11	.....	46	
Rajshahye	1·26	33	1·92	27	2 58	96·81	·60	.....	28	
Rungpore	1·86	21	3·01	8	5·94	93·79	·25	.....	12	
Bogra	·80	45	1·05	40	1·38	98·22	·38	.....	42	
Pubna	·98	42	1·88	28	2 76	96·75	·46	.....	24	
Darjeeling	·65	47	·22	49	7·12	92 87	.....	.....	8	
Julpigoree	1·54	25	·83	45	1·36	98·55	.....	·08	43	
Rajshahye Division ...	***9·30***	V	***11·12***	V	***3·06***	***96 60***	***·31***	***·01***	V	
Dacca	1·49	26	3·04	7	1·86	94·02	1·11	.....	16	
Furreedpore	1·21	34	2·34	18	1·91	97·12	·95	·01	36	
Backergunge...	1·94	18	2·73	13	1·64	96·86	1·48	.....	39	
Mymensingh	3·35	5	4·38	1	2·12	97·21	·35	.....	30	
Dacca Division ...	***8·01***	VI	***12·51***	II	***2 75***	***96 34***	***·90***	.....	VII	
Chittagong	1·37	30	1·62	30	2·23	97·27	·49	.....	32	
Noakholly	·87	44	1·18	38	·62	98 94	·43	.....	47	
Tipperah	1·33	31	2·18	23	2·02	97·35	·61	.....	35	
Chittagong Hill Tracts ..	2·80	7	·14	50	.....	94·24	5·75	.....	49	
Chittagong Division ...	***6·47***	VIII	***5·13***	IX	***1·71***	***97·60***	***·68***	.....	IX	
All Bengal Proper ...	***37·61***	.....	***51 20***	.....	***6·13***	***93·10***	***·74***	.....	.....	

District, Division and Province.	Area.		Population.		Urban and Rural Population.					Remarks.
	Percentage of total.	Serial order.	Percentage of total.	Serial order.	Urban.	Rural.	Boat population.	Railway passengers.	Rank according to ratio of urban population.	
Patna	1·11	*37*	2·52	*15*	19·02	80·70	·25	·01	*3*	
Gya	2·51	*10*	3·05	*6*	6·35	93·63	·01	.....	*9*	
Shahabad	2·33	*11*	2·82	*11*	6·21	93·54	·22	·01	*10*	
Mozufferpore	1·60	*24*	3·71	*3*	6·14	93·79	·05	.....	*11*	
Durbhunga	1·78	*23*	3·78	*2*	4·03	95·92	·03	.....	*19*	
Sarun	1·40	*28*	3·27	*5*	4·46	95·39	·13	.....	*18*	
Chumparun	1·88	*19*	2·47	*17*	2·74	97·24	.....	.....	*25*	
Patna Division ...	*12·63*	III	*21 66*	I	*6·67*	*93·22*	*·09*	.....	II	
Monghyr	2·09	*16*	2·83	*10*	4·51	95·17	·27	·03	*17*	
Bhaugulpore	2·27	*12*	2·82	*11*	3·75	96·01	·22	.....	*21*	
Purneah	2·64	*9*	2·65	*14*	2·60	97·23	·06	.....	*26*	
Maldah	1·01	*41*	1·02	*41*	2·41	96·38	1·20	.....	*30*	
Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	2·01	*6*	2·25	*22*	1·30	98·56	·08	·04	*30*	
Bhaugulpore Division	*10·94*	IV	*11·59*	IV	*3·10*	*96·61*	*·26*	·01	IV	
All Behar ...	*23·57*	.....	*33·25*	.....	*5·43*	*94·40*	*·15*	... ..	.....	
Cuttack	1·87	*20*	2·49	*16*	4·00	95·85	·14	.....	*20*	
Pooree	1·32	*32*	1·27	*37*	2·48	97·42	·09	.....	*29*	
Balasore	1·10	*39*	1·35	*36*	2·14	97·70	·14	.....	*34*	
Angul	·47	*49*	·14	*50*	.....	99·58	·41	.....	*49*	
Banki	·06	*51*	·08	*53*	.....	99·34	·65	.....	*49*	
Orissa ...	*4·83*	X	*5·36*	VIII	*3·00*	*96·85*	*·14*	.....	VI	
Hazaribagh	3·75	*4*	1·58	*31*	3·12	96·86	.....	.....	*23*	
Lohardugga	6·43	*3*	2·31	*20*	2·19	97·80	.....	.....	*33*	
Singbhoom	2·00	*17*	·65	*46*	1·32	98·67	.....	.....	*44*	
Manbhoom	2·21	*13*	1·52	*33*	1·87	98·12	.....	.....	*37*	
Chota Nagpore ...	*14·40*	II	*6·07*	VII	*2·26*	*97·73*	.....	.....	VIII	
All Bengal ...	80 43	.....	95 90	.....	5·47	94·05	·46	.....	.....	
Cooch Behar	·69	*46*	·86	*44*	1·58	98·35	·06	.....	*40*	
Hill Tipperah	2·18	*15*	·13	*52*	.....	100·00	.....	.....	*49*	
Tributary States, Orissa ...	8·11	*2*	2·11	*25*	·37	99·58	·03	.....	*48*	
Ditto, Chota Nagpore	8·57	*1*	·97	*42*	.....	100·00	.....	.....	*49*	
Feudatory States	*19·56*	I	*4·09*	X	*·52*	*99·43*	*·02*	.....	X	
All Bengal, including Feudatory States	.....	.....	.....	.....	5·26	94·27	·44	.....	.....	

Census of Bengal, 1881.

Table showing the Area, Total Population, and Density of Population

FOR EACH DISTRICT, DIVISION, AND PROVINCE.

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.	Area in square miles.	Population.	Number of persons per square mile.
BENGAL.			
BURDWAN. Burdwan	2,697	1,391,823	516·06
BURDWAN. Bankoorah	2,621	1,041,752	397·46
BURDWAN. Beerbhoom	1,756	794,428	452·40
BURDWAN. Midnapore	5,692	2,517,802	497·44
BURDWAN. Hooghly	1,223	1,012,768	828·16
BURDWAN. Howrah	476	635,381	1,334·83
Total	*13,855*	*7,393,954*	*533·67*
PRESIDENCY. 24-Pergunnahs	2,697	1,618,420	771·78
PRESIDENCY. Suburbs	23	251,439	10,932·13
PRESIDENCY. Calcutta	8	433,219	54,152·37
PRESIDENCY. Nuddea	3,404	2,017,847	592·79
PRESIDENCY. Jessore	2,276	1,477,749	649·09
PRESIDENCY. Khulna	2,077	1,079,948	519·96
PRESIDENCY. Moorshedabad	2,144	1,226,790	572·20
Total	*12,629*	*8,204,912*	*682·09*
RAJSHAHYE. Dinagepore	4,118	1,514,346	367·74
RAJSHAHYE. Rajshahye	2,761	1,538,638	556·98
RAJSHAHYE. Rungpore	3,486	2,097,964	601·83
RAJSHAHYE. Bogra	1,498	734,358	490·23
RAJSHAHYE. Pubna	1,847	1,311,728	710·19
RAJSHAHYE. Darjeeling	1,234	153,179	125·75
RAJSHAHYE. Julpigoree	2,884	581,562	201·65
Total	*17,128*	*7,733,775*	*443·76*
DACCA. Dacca	2,797	2,116,350	756·65
DACCA. Furreedpore	2,267	1,631,734	719·78
DACCA. Backergunge	3,649	1,906,889	522·93
DACCA. Mymensingh	6,287	3,051,566	485·44
Total	*15,000*	*8,706,939*	*580·06*
CHITTAGONG. Chittagong	2,567	1,132,541	441·11
CHITTAGONG. Noakholly	1,641	820,772	500·17
CHITTAGONG. Tipperah	2,491	1,519,338	609·93
CHITTAGONG. Chittagong Hill Tracts	5,419	101,597	18·75
Total	*12,118*	*3,574,048*	*294·94*
TOTAL FOR BENGAL PROPER	*70,430*	*35,607,728*	*505·57*

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.	Area in square miles.	Population.	Number of persons per square mile.
BEHAR.			
PATNA. Patna	2,679	1,736,856	845·05
PATNA. Gya	4,712	2,124,682	450·91
PATNA. Shahabad	4,365	1,964,909	450·15
PATNA. Mozufferpore	3,003	2,582,660	859·83
PATNA. Durbhunga	3,335	2,633,847	789·64
PATNA. Sarun	2,622	2,280,382	869·71
PATNA. Chumparun	3,531	1,721,608	487·57
Total	*23,647*	*15,963,944*	*637·03*
BHAUGULPORE. Monghyr	3,921	1,969,774	502·37
BHAUGULPORE. Bhaugulpore	4,268	1,966,158	460·67
BHAUGULPORE. Purneah	4,956	1,818,687	373·02
BHAUGULPORE. Maldah	1,894	710,448	373·70
BHAUGULPORE. Sonthal Pergunnahs	5,456	1,568,093	287·41
Total	*20,192*	*8,963,160*	*393·48*
TOTAL FOR BEHAR	*44,139*	*23,127,104*	*523·96*
ORISSA.			
ORISSA. Cuttack	3,517	1,738,165	494·22
ORISSA. Pooree	2,473	888,487	359·27
ORISSA. Balasore	2,066	945,280	457·54
ORISSA. Angul	881	101,903	115·67
ORISSA. Banki	116	56,900	490·52
TOTAL FOR ORISSA	*9,053*	*3,730,735*	*412·1*
CHOTA NAGPORE.			
CHOTA NAGPORE. Hazaribagh	7,021	1,104,742	157·35
CHOTA NAGPORE. Lohardugga	12,045	1,609,244	133·60
CHOTA NAGPORE. Singbhoom	3,753	453,775	120·91
CHOTA NAGPORE. Manbhoom	4,147	1,058,228	255·18
TOTAL FOR CHOTA NAGPORE	*26,966*	*4,225,989*	*156·72*
GRAND TOTAL FOR THE PROVINCE	*150,588*	*66,691,156*	*442·87*
FEUDATORY STATES.			
FEUDATORY STATES. Cooch Behar	1,307	602,624	461·07
FEUDATORY STATES. Hill Tipperah	4,086	95,637	23·41
FEUDATORY STATES. Tributary States, Orissa	15,187	1,469,142	96·74
FEUDATORY STATES. Ditto, Chota Nagpore	16,054	678,002	42·23
TOTAL FOR FEUDATORY STATES	*36,634*	*2,845,405*	*77·67*
GRAND TOTAL, INCLUDING FEUDATORY STATES	*187,222*	*69,536,861*	*371·41*

NOTE.—From the above table the areas of large rivers and the area of the Sunderbunds have been omitted. The latter is estimated to be 3,076 square miles.

W. H. D'C.—Reg. No. 3653J—1—6-7-82.

LITHOGRAPHED BY THE BURMAH BRANCH OF THE ASIATIC SOCIETY

Lithographed at the Surveyor General's Office, Calcutta, July 1881.

CHAPTER V.

STATISTICS OF INCREASE AND DECREASE.

(Table II, pages 13 to 16, Appendix B, and Table XXIII, pages 651 to 686, Appendix C.)

Introductory

99. The first of these tables shows for each province, division, and district in Bengal, and for the Feudatory States, the absolute increase or decrease of the population since the census of 1872, giving separately the figures for males, females, and both sexes, and it also gives the percentage of increase or decrease for the same classes of the population. Table No. XXIII, which is not one of the imperial tables, but was prescribed by the Government of Bengal, gives similar details for the still smaller units of subdivisions and thannahs.

Changes since 1872—in area

100. Since the census of 1872 was taken many changes have been carried out in the distribution of the territories under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, as has already been explained in Chapter IV above. Foremost among these was the severance from Bengal of the province of Assam and its creation into a separate Chief Commissionership. When the census of 1872 was taken the area of Bengal was estimated to be 248,231 square miles. By the separation of the districts which now form the independent province of Assam, and by other adjustments, the area of the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal has been reduced by 61,009 square miles, and now stands at 187,222 square miles, exclusive of the areas of large rivers, and of 5,976 square miles included within the Sundarbuns—a broad fringe of forest, creek, and swamp, which extends along the sea face of the delta of the Ganges and Brahmaputra for miles.

and in population.

101. The population of the province of Bengal, as then constituted, is given in Mr. Beverley's Report on the Census of 1872 as 66,856,859 ; but the total for the same census, given in column 2 of Table II (page 16 of the Appendix), is only 62,705,718. The difference of 4,151,141 persons is accounted for as follows. The population of the Commissionership of Assam in 1872 was (as shown at page iii of Mr. Beverley's Statement I.A) 2,207,453; the other Bengal districts of Sylhet (with a population of 1,719,539) and Cachar (with 205,027 souls) brought up the total population transferred to the care of the new Chief Commissioner to 4,132,019 persons. Subsequently a tract of country containing 3,714 inhabitants was retransferred from the Goalpara district of Assam to that of Rungpore in Bengal, so that the net loss to Bengal on account of the population transferred to Assam was 4,128,305. Besides this large deduction three others of a petty character have to be made. It will be noticed on referring to the footnote, Table No. II of the Appendix, that the figures given in column 2 against the City of Calcutta are those for a census taken in 1876, and not, as in all other cases, for those of the 1872 census. During the four years between 1872 and 1876 there was an increase in the population of Calcutta amounting to 18,066 persons, which must be deducted when a comparison is instituted strictly between the figures of 1881 and those of 1872. In the next place, after the Census Report of 1872 had been published two errors of overstatement were detected,—one in the case of the Suburbs of Calcutta, where 1,761 persons appear to have been counted as inhabitants both of the Suburbs and of the rural part of the 24-Pergunnahs; they have been deducted from the population of the Suburbs in 1872. Secondly, 1,926 persons, inhabiting certain villages on the borders of Hazaribagh and Gya, were counted by the enumerators of both districts; but investigation having shown that the villages were really in Hazaribagh, their 1,926 inhabitants have been taken from the total for Gya in 1872. These deductions leave a balance of 1,083 persons in excess, which it is now impossible to adjust. All that can be said is that in some of the very frequent transfers of area and population which have been made between districts since 1872 1,083 persons have been struck out of the register of one district without being added to the population of another. At this distance of time it is

impossible to discover when this blunder was made; and as the error is extremely insignificant, it may be left without further remark.

102. The following figures show more clearly how the total of 62,705,718 for the census of 1872 is arrived at:—

Population of the Commissionership of Assam	2,207,453
Ditto Sylhet district	1,719,539
Ditto Cachar „	205,027
	4,132,019
Deduct retransferred from the Goalpara district	3,714
Net total transferred to Assam	4,128,305
Add correction for Calcutta	18,066
Ditto for Suburbs	1,761
Ditto for Gya	1,926
Ditto for balance unaccountable	1,083
Total deduction ...	4,151,141
Total of Bengal as at census of 1872	66,856,859
Less deductions as shown above	4,151,141
Balance, being the figures for corrected area	62,705,718

103. In the same way, if the population figures for the divisions and districts of Bengal, as they stand in the Census Report of 1872, are compared with those given for the same census in the second column of Table No. II in Appendix A, it will be noticed that in every division and in sixteen districts the figures for total population have undergone revision. The reason of these changes may be inferred from what has been said in Chapter IV above with regard to the areas of districts in 1872 and in 1881, and the remarks there made need not be repeated. It is enough to say that wherever there has been a transfer of area, necessitating thereby a transfer of population, the requisite corrections have been made. Laborious though the task has been, it is believed to have been very successfully carried out; and the result is that the figures now placed side by side in Tables Nos. II and XXIII for the two censuses of 1872 and 1881 represent the population enumerated at each date as living within areas which are exactly identical. The following table shows the loss and gain of the districts affected by these changes:—

District.	Increase (+).	Decrease (—).
Burdwan	.....	550,895
Bankoorah	441,825	.....
Beerbhoom	157,864	.....
Midnapore	4,216	.....
Hooghly and Howrah	264,694	.....
Moorshedabad	.....	139,522
Furreedpore	489,847	.....
Backergunge	.....	489,847
Mymensingh	.....	1,164
Noakholly	126,442	.....
Tipperah	.....	125,278
Monghyr	1,552	.....
Bhaugulpore	.....	1,552
Singbhoom	.....	96,843
Manbhoom	.....	175,019
Tributary States, Chota Nagpore	92,627	.....
Error of omission	1,083	.....
Total ...	1,580,150	1,580,150

In the case of the Divisions there has been more than a mere transfer of area and population, for, as already described, they have been rearranged during the past nine years ; and the Feudatory States, which were in the Census Report of 1872 shown as part of the several Divisions to which they are attached for administrative purposes, have now been placed together under a separate heading.

Details of present population.

104. The population, then, inhabiting the area of 187,222 square miles which now composes the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, including the Native States of Cooch Behar and Hill Tipperah and the Feudatory States attached to the Orissa and Chota Nagpore Divisions, reached in 1872 the total of 62,705,718 persons of both sexes, of whom 31,341,366 were males and 31,364,352 females. At the census just taken the numbers were 69,536,861 of both sexes, of whom the males were 34,625,591 and the females 34,911,270. There has therefore been an increase in the population of both sexes during the nine years just past of 6,831,143 persons, or 10·89 per cent; to which the males have contributed 3,284,225, or 10·47 per cent, and the females slightly more, viz. 3,546,918, or 11·30 per cent. These figures yield an annual average increase of 1·21 per cent for both sexes, 1·16 per cent for males and 1·25 per cent for females. Excluding the Feudatory States, and taking into consideration only those territories which are under the immediate control of the Lieutenant-Governor, the population of Bengal is now 66,691,456, as against 60,483,775 in 1872; the males being 33,174,651 as against 30,210,600, and the females 33,516,805 to 30,273,175. These figures yield an increase on both sexes of 6,207,681, or 10·26 per cent—in males of 2,964,051, or 9·81 per cent, and in females of 3,243,630, or 10·71 per cent.

Part of the increase caused by more accurate enumeration.

105. It is not to be supposed that the whole of this increase represents an advance in the actual numbers of the population. Some of it, necessarily an indefinite quantity, is due to the more elaborate arrangements made for the present census, and to the greater accuracy with which it was taken; and thus it means, not that there were 6,831,143 more persons living in Bengal in 1881 than there were in 1872, but that of that number, while the great majority were new arrivals in Bengal either by birth or immigration, a certain number were persons who, although actually living in Bengal in 1872, escaped by some means or other enumeration at the census of that year. In making this statement no injurious reflection is intended upon the manner in which the census of 1872 was taken or its results worked out. Government at the time and since have fully acknowledged the ability with which Mr. Beverley supervised those operations, and the care and energy with which his efforts were seconded by district officers. But Mr. Beverley himself would be the last to assert that his enumeration was faultless; and, in fact, the local inquiries which preceded the taking of the present census, and were essential to the complete mapping out of the ground in each district into enumerators' blocks, disclosed many cases of omission—sometimes of whole villages, sometimes of individuals or isolated families. That such omissions should have occurred can be no matter of surprise. It would indeed be a matter of much greater wonder if none such were found; for they occur in the census of all countries, as well in the most civilised as the most barbarous: so that a perfect enumeration of the population is an impossibility. In 1872 the census was a novelty, with which the people were quite unfamiliar, and which they therefore viewed with unqualified apprehension. The want of accurate and complete maps, the absence of anything like the detailed testing of the preliminary enumeration which was carried out in the census just past, the delays which financial pressure imposed upon its execution, and the difficulties which district officers themselves experienced in conducting a novel operation at once so minute and so vast, were all disadvantages which would more than excuse a very much larger error than what may be supposed to have occurred, and which can hardly have extended to 1 in 10,000. That some such error did occur, however, is beyond dispute; and even if the fact were not known, it would certainly be inferred when it is observed that, special causes apart, the districts which show the largest percentage of increase are those in which the population is the most backward,—where, while the natural features of the country rendered accurate enumeration difficult, this difficulty was exaggerated by the ignorance or hostility of its inhabitants, and in which, therefore, there was the greatest room for improvement in the next census. In what parts of the Lower Provinces these conditions prevailed will be apparent from the following remarks.

106. Of the five parts into which Bengal is divided for the purposes of the census tables, viz. Bengal, Behar, Orissa, Chota Nagpore, and the Feudatory

States, by far the greatest comparative increase is found in the two latter, the actual statistics being as follows:—

Increase of Provinces.

Province.	Percentage of Increase.		
	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.
Chota Nagpore	34·26	31·56	37·00
Feudatory States	28·06	28·31	27·71
Orissa	17·90	17·89	18·03
Behar	13·30	12·42	14·18
Bengal	5·46	5·46	5·46
The whole ...	10·89	10·47	11·30

That is to say, the ascertained increase in the total of both sexes is more than six times greater in the non-regulation districts of the Chota Nagpore Division than it is in Bengal proper, twice and a half as great as it has been in the neighbouring province of Behar, nearly twice as great as in that of Orissa, and nearly 25 per cent greater than in the Feudatory States. As regards the increase of the sexes, the advance in the proportion of women returned is greater in the same province, both absolutely and in proportion to the increase in the number of men, than anywhere else. So that putting aside the Feudatory States, where it may be doubted whether the census has ever yet been taken with perfect accuracy, the different parts of Bengal show an increase not only of the total, but of the female population, in inverse proportion to their position in respect of material progress, thus corroborating the statement that some of the increase is due to a more accurate enumeration on the present than on the former occasion, and supporting the theory, stated elsewhere, that the increase in the returned proportion of women to men is a gauge of the accuracy of each succeeding census.

107. Apart from the question of more or less accurate enumeration, however, it is the fact that Bengal proper, which shows by far the smallest increase of any part of these provinces, was the scene of the only serious calamities which have befallen the population of Bengal during the past decade, viz. the Burdwan fever, the Backergunge cyclone and its concomitant cholera epidemic, and to a lesser extent the late fever in Nuddea and other districts of the Presidency Division; for, as will presently be shown, the scarcity in Behar in 1873 and 1874, far from reducing the population of that teeming province, was probably, owing to the unsparing efforts of Government, the means of prolonging many lives which would otherwise have paid the debt of nature.

Increase and decrease in the Divisions.

108. Looking more closely into the tables, it will be seen that of all the ten Divisions (including the Feudatory States) for which separate figures are given, only one, viz. that of Burdwan, shows a decrease in numbers, the others being arranged as follows in the order of their advance:—

Divisions.	Percentage of Increase.		
	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.
Chota Nagpore	34·26	31·56	37·00
Feudatory States	28·06	28·31	27·71
Orissa	17·90	17·89	18·03
Dacca	14·61	15·05	14·16
Patna	14·80	13·76	15·82
Bhaugulpore	10·60	10·03	11·18
Presidency	6·01	6·06	5·95
Rajshahye	4·78	4·84	1·71
Chittagong	3·71	3·03	1·39

109. In the Chota Nagpore Division every district returns a large increase of inhabitants, ranging for both sexes from 28·97 per cent in the case of Manbhoom to 43·12 per cent in Hazaribagh, while the increase in the number of females is everywhere greater than that of males, as the following details show:— The Chota Nagpore Division.

District.	Percentage of Increase.		
	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.
Hazaribagh	43·12	37·23	49·62
Lohardugga	30·08	28·17	32·00
Singbhoom	42·61	42·31	42·92
Manbhoom	28·97	27·08	30·88

If the figures of the census of 1872 are correct, there has been an increase in these districts, which implies a fertility of which the human race has hitherto not been considered capable, or an immigration which has no parallel except in the history of Californian townships. In reality the facts as to immigration are the other way. It is notorious that these districts are the great recruiting grounds for cooly emigrants to all parts of Bengal and Assam, to the West Indian Islands and the Mauritius; and though it is asserted that in some parts of the Division emigration has not of late been so extensive as it was in the ten years preceding the census of 1872, yet that it still constitutes a considerable drain on the population the following facts will prove. In the district of Hazaribagh the percentage of increase is highest, viz. 43·12 per cent, for both sexes; yet the Deputy Commissioner reports that 25,691 persons left the district for Assam alone as registered emigrants during the seven years from 1874 to 1881. From Lohardugga during the years 1872 to 1881 the emigrants under Act VIII (B.C.) of 1873 were 43,490, and the Deputy Commissioner reports that free emigration is largely increasing, and that emigration under the Act is now but a fraction of what it was two years ago. Lastly, the tables showing the birthplaces of the people demonstrate that, besides the large numbers who have emigrated to Assam and other parts of India, 317,906 persons born in the Chota Nagpore Division were found outside its limits in other parts of Bengal at the time of the census of 1881. Hazaribagh. Lohardugga.

110. On the other hand, immigration into these districts from outside the Division is inconsiderable. Movements of the population from one part of a district to another, or from one district of the Division to another, do not affect the present question, though they unquestionably occur. Thus it is stated that there is a steady flow of emigrants from the better cultivated and thickly-peopled plateau in the centre of the Lohardugga district to the virgin forests of the south and the western parts of Singbhoom. Into the Palamow subdivision of the same district there is some immigration, and the fertile soil and moderate rents of the eastern marches of Singbhoom have attracted in some numbers new settlers from the neighbouring district of Manbhoom. As regards immigrants from outside the Division, Table XI of the Appendix (birthplaces of the population) shows that the total number of persons found in the Chota Nagpore Division who were born elsewhere was at the time of the census 138,575, distributed as follows:—Hazaribagh 39,546, Lohardugga 48,824, Singbhoom 15,623, and Manbhoom 34,582. This band of immigrants forms only 3·2 per cent of the whole population; and when their number (138,575) is compared with the number of emigrants from this Division found in other parts of Bengal (317,906) and the large number that have emigrated beyond the limits of the Lower Provinces, it is clear that the drain of emigrants from these districts far exceeds the accessions which they receive from elsewhere, and at once negatives the theory that the increase in the Division is due to immigration.

111. Bearing this fact in view, if we still assume that the figures for 1872 are correct, we must believe that the inhabitants of this Division are so prolific, and the probability of life among them so great, that by the mere excess of births over deaths they are able to replace their losses by emigration and to increase at a rate which would double their numbers in a quarter of a century. Such a

proposition needs no discussion; and it is obvious that most of the large increase reported is apparent only, and is due to the defective enumeration of 1872, which was admittedly only approximate and, as the author of the 1872 Report himself observes, partook rather of the character of a survey of the population than a regular census. On this point the district officers of the Division are unanimous; and though they profess themselves unable to form any exact estimate of the extent of the error, Mr. Risley, the subdivisional officer of Govindpore in Manbhoom, has discussed the matter at length in his report, and has hazarded the suggestion that it may amount to 15 per cent of the population. The estimate seems probable in itself, and is hardly excessive, inasmuch as if accepted it would only reduce the real percentage of increase of the division to 17·26 per cent—a figure still excessively high for a natural increase during nine years in a country from which emigration takes place.

The Feudatory States.

112. The increase in the Feudatory States, in a similar manner, is more apparent than real, while it is partly due to the great advance of 171·21 per cent in the state of Hill Tipperah alone. These states have already been described in Chapter IV. Cooch Behar is a close imitation of a British district, differing from neighbouring parts of Bengal in its political status alone, but the other three units of which this group is composed are under the direct administration of their petty chiefs, still more or less barbarous, and only distantly supervised by British officers. In these states the census was taken by the chiefs themselves; and though the ordinary census schedules in use for the rest of Bengal were employed in all except Hill Tipperah, and efforts were made to assimilate their operations to those in force in British territory, yet it is but natural to expect that with the exception of Cooch Behar the results obtained both in 1872 and 1881 should be less near the truth than in other parts of Bengal. Nevertheless some advance towards accuracy has doubtless been made, and the large increases, *i.e.* of 27·14 per cent in the Orissa States and of 35·97 per cent in those of Chota Nagpore, besides denoting an actual increase in the numbers of the population both by births and by immigration, also connote a greater amount of accuracy in the enumeration of 1881. The percentage of aliens in the Tributary States of Orissa is 12·36, and in those of Chota Nagpore the figure is 29·01 per cent,—more than one-fourth of the whole population. That Cooch Behar, on the other hand, should have advanced at a rate but little higher than the average for the whole province, implies a satisfactory accuracy in the returns of either census. The large advance of 171·21 per cent in Hill Tipperah is caused by the great understatement of its population in 1872. In that year the total population was returned as only 35,262, of whom 18,262 were estimated to be males and 17,000 females. This total was so obviously below the mark that another census was taken by the local authorities in 1875-76, which gave a total of 75,792; and a third in 1876-77, which resulted in a total of 91,759. The increase at each of these enumerations is a conclusive proof of the inaccuracy of its predecessor, and the small advance of 3,878 during the four years between the censuses of 1877 and and 1881 is a strong argument in favour of the correctness of both. It is explained that while at former censuses the enumeration was little more than an estimate based on the family-tax papers in the archives of the State, the present figures have been compiled after local inquiry, and may be accepted as fairly near to the truth.

The Orissa Division.

113. Third on the list of Divisions stands Orissa, with an increase of 17·96 per cent, of which 17·89 is contributed by the females and 18·03 by the males. Excluding the small district of Angul, which in 1872 was still a part of the Feudatory States of Orissa, in no district of the Division is the increase phenomenal. Large everywhere, it is probable that the figures represent an actual advance in the numbers of a population recovering during a series of prosperous years from the famine which decimated it in 1866. It may be said that between the famine of 1866 and the census of 1872 six years had elapsed, and that during that time the people must have made so considerable an advance that it is now too late, fifteen years after the event, to ascribe much of the increase now reported to the rebound from that calamity; yet there can be no doubt that the explanation just given is the true one. No immigration worth noticing followed the famine; there is nothing to show that in 1872 there were any large omissions, though every district officer in the Division suggests that there was a

small percentage of this error. Common knowledge and the figures of the present census prove that even including the pilgrims to Pooree the number of aliens in Orissa is very small (less than 3 per cent); and it therefore seems clear that almost the whole of the reported increase is the natural result of plentiful years and the absence of epidemic disease or other widespread calamity.

The Dacca Division.

114. The general increase of 14·61 per cent in the Dacca Division (males 15·05 and females 14·16) is almost entirely due to the enormous strides made by the population of the Mymensingh district, which, if the figures for 1872 are correct, advanced in nine years from 2,348,753 to 3,051,966, being an increase of 703,213 persons, or 29·93 per cent. But in his report on the present census the Magistrate of this district (Mr. N. S. Alexander) states that it was "notorious that the census of 1872 was anything but correctly taken, especially in the outlying portions of the district;" and in his report on the census of 1872 Mr. Beverley noted that the Collector did not write confidently of the success of the census in Mymensingh. Nevertheless, admitting that a certain percentage of the increase now reported is due to the deficiencies in the enumeration of 1872, there are features in the circumstances of this district which lend colour to the belief that its actual advance has been very large. In the first place there is no part of Bengal where the condition of the general population is more prosperous than in this Division: rents are low, markets good, and the failure of the crops unknown; much waste land that ten years ago was jungle and swamp has now been brought under cultivation, while the development of the jute industry has induced a general prosperity among the cultivating classes, to which the inhabitants of less favoured districts are entire strangers. Under these favourable circumstances early marriages and large families are the rule, and the tendency to rapid increase of a population chiefly Mahomedan is free from all check. Lastly, the Collector reports that during the winter very large numbers of strangers from the North-Western Provinces and other parts of Bengal are attracted to the district in search of employment, and remain there from October till May, so that they would all have been embraced in the census held in February. The first of these statements receives ample confirmation from the fact that in this district the percentage of children under ten years is unusually high, being 3 per cent above the mean for the whole province; while the second is corroborated by the evidence of the birthplace tables, which show that at the time of the census 96,650 persons were enumerated in Mymensingh who had been born out of the district, of whom nearly two-thirds were men, while 24,552, or one-fourth of the whole number, were born elsewere than in Lower Bengal.

Mymensingh.

Dacca.

115 The advance of 14·21 per cent in the Dacca district is to be attributed to natural causes aided by the development of the jute trade, for the Collector of this district reported in 1877 that the jute grown in Dacca alone and sold at Naraingunge put a sum of money into the hands of the cultivators sufficient to pay the rental of the whole district and to leave a profit of from eight to thirteen lakhs of rupees. It is to be observed that the greatest percentage of increase is found in the thannahs of the Naraingunge subdivision, the principal town of which is rapidly taking its stand as one of the most important trade centres of Eastern Bengal. The increase of 8·60 per cent in Furreedpore is probably susceptible of a similar explanation.

Backergunge.

116. That the Backergunge district should show an increase at all instead of a heavy decrease is a remarkable proof of the recuperative powers of the people of Bengal and their rapid increase after calamity. The district suffered from cholera in 1875, but the calamities which have depopulated it were the great storm-wave of 1876 and the pestilence which succeeded it. The district of Backergunge lies in the north-east angle of the Bay of Bengal, at the mouth of the delta formed by the Brahmaputra, the Ganges, and the Megna. These three great rivers, under the name of the Megna, expand into a noble estuary studded with large islands, which form three lines stretching north and south, between which and the main land the river finds its way to the sea. These islands at the mouth of the Megna are all extremely low, and are merely the crests of an extensive and increasing alluvial deposit at the mouth of the estuary. They are formed chiefly from the *detritus* of the Himalayas, deposited over the area in which the tidal and the river waters wage incessant warfare, alternately displacing each other. As soon as they cease to be

submerged at high tide, and coarse grass and brushwood spring up, these islands are leased for grazing and fuel-cutting. Next, as the land becomes fit for the plough cultivation is gradually commenced; and as this advances the cultivators, from being mere temporary tillers of the soil and gatherers of its crops, become resident tenants, digging large tanks for fresh water and raising lofty mounds for the foundations of their homesteads, which they surround with trees. Such was the country submerged by the storm-wave of 31st October 1876, and up till that date the inhabitants of these islands were considered the most prosperous peasantry in all Bengal. The tidal wave running up the Bay of Bengal reaches the estuary of the Megna later than any other point of the coast, and there, meeting the large masses of fresh water running down by several channels through innumerable low islands to the sea, the well-known phenomenon of a bore is produced whenever the tide is unusually strong or the river heavily flooded, or when there is a strong south-west wind. On the night of the 31st October 1876 all these three conditions were unhappily in combination, and produced the great flood over the south of Backergunge and the neighbouring districts which was attended with such disastrous effects. It was full moon on the evening of that 31st October, and there was an abnormally high tide, which flooded all the low lands along the coast at the head of the Bay. From 10 p.m. of the same night to 3 a.m. next day a violent north wind blew, which brought down the waters of the Megna in usual volume. After a short interval of calm the wind changed round and, blowing furiously from the south and west, impelled the storm-wave with unusual force into the converging waters of the estuary. The storm-wave, like the ordinary tidal wave, was retarded on the shallows at the entrance of the river. It accumulated there, and finally overpowered the mass of fresh water brought down by the Megna which had been unable to find an exit seawards during the last six or seven hours. It then rushed forwards as a salt-water bore up the Sundip Channel and as a fresh-water bore up the other channels, till the vast mass of water gradually advancing northwards flooded the whole area of the islands to a depth varying from 10 to 45 feet. Fortunately the inundation did not last long, and subsided even more quickly than it rose, for, beginning at about 11 p.m., the water continued to rise until about 4 a.m., when it began to subside, and the greater portion of the flood water had flowed off before 8 a.m. on the 1st November.*

The Cyclone and Storm-wave of 1876.

117. The main land of the Backergunge district lies to the westward of the channels described above, and is protected by the broad and deep belt of swampy and uninhabitable jungle known as the Sundarbuns. The islands whose formation has just been described, some of them of great extent, form a considerable portion of the district. The Lieutenant-Governor, who visited the scene of the disaster within a few days of its occurrence, upon the reports of the local officials and after personal inquiries, estimated at first that the inundation had extended over 3,000 square miles of country in the districts of Backergunge, Noakholly, and Chittagong, and that the loss of life it occasioned amounted to 215,000 persons, of whom 105,000 were believed to have been drowned in the Backergunge district alone. As was inevitable, the thousands of decomposing corpses of men and animals and the rotting vegetation poisoned the air and contaminated the drinking-water throughout the whole area of the inundation, and a terrible outbreak of cholera followed the storm-wave, lasting through November and December 1876 and till the end of January 1877. In Backergunge and the western parts of the devastated tract the fact that the inundation consisted chiefly of fresh water saved the crops, did not seriously injure the land, and left the drinking-water fit for use except where it was contaminated by the corpses of the dead. Along the Chittagong coast and the eastern banks of the Megna in the Noakholly district, however, all these malign conditions existed, and the state of the people there was miserable in the extreme.

118. It has been stated above that the first estimate of the deaths by drowning was for the Backergunge district 105,000 persons. Fortunately this estimate was found to be too high, and careful investigation reduced the number of deaths from this cause to 73,914. In the cholera epidemic which followed the subsidence of the inundation the number of reported deaths was 41,537, giving a total of 115,451 deaths from both causes; and bearing in mind the many deaths which in such seasons are not reported, it is reasonable to assume that the mortality reached

* This account of the storm-wave is taken mainly from the report of Mr. J. Eliot, Meteorological Reporter to the Government of Bengal.

120,000. The population of that part of the district which suffered most severely from the inundation was roughly estimated at the time upon the census figures of 1872 to be 437,000. Assuming that the population in this tract had increased at the moderate rate of 1·5 per cent per annum, it must have amounted to 466,500 by the end of 1876. If out of this number 120,000 persons were drowned or perished of cholera, the total mortality amounted to 25·72 per cent, or more than one-fourth of the whole population. Great efforts were made to succour the distressed, cultivation was resumed, the markets were reopened, and the epidemic sickness once over large numbers of immigrants from neighbouring districts and from other parts of the same district came into the devastated tracts. Much has been done, and the decrease of 25·72 per cent has been reduced in five and a half years' time to one of 16·5 per cent, yet the figures given below for some of the stricken thannahs show how heavily the effects of the calamity are still felt :—

Bhola	has decreased by	... ...	11·07 per cent.
Bauphal	„ „ „	... ...	20·26 „
Golachipa	„ „ „	... ...	25·28 „

The Patna Division.

119. But perhaps the most surprising feature in the tables under examination is the advance of 14·8 per cent (13·76 for men and 15·82 per cent for women) reported in the Patna Division. When the census of 1872 was taken the density of the population which covered this area was the subject of frequent comment, and it has received the continuous attention of Government ever since. In that year the average number of persons to the square mile in the Patna Division was 553, distributed as follows :—

Sarun ...	 778	Gya ...	 413
Patna ...	 742	Chumparun	 408
Tirhoot ...	 691	Shahabad	 393

It has frequently been asserted that it was impossible for the soil to support any further increase in a population most of whom depend on agriculture for their livelihood, yet the figures now returned seem to show that a large increase was not only possible, but that it has actually taken place in every district of the Division. Thus the Durbhunga district, which was formerly the north-eastern portion of the district of Tirhoot, shows an advance of 23·09 per cent, Chumparun follows with 19·48 per cent, Mozufferpore (the other portion of the old Tirhoot district) with 14·99 per cent, Shahabad with 13·97 per cent, Patna with 12·64 per cent, Sarun with 10·49 per cent, and Gya closes the list with 9·07 per cent. In density of population the districts have increased in a different degree; but with the single exception that the pressure of population on the soil is now higher in Chumparun than in Gya, their order is the same as it was in 1872, viz.—

	Persons per square mile.		Persons per square mile.
Sarun	869·71	Chumparun	487·57
Patna	845·05	Gya	450·91
Mozufferpore and Durbhunga	824·73	Shahabad	450·15

giving an average for the Division of 637·03 per square mile. Upon this teeming population fell the scarcity of 1873-74, when the complete failure in the northern districts of the crops which form the sole food of nine-tenths of the people straitened the means of the whole population in the trans-Gangetic districts and reduced a large proportion of them to the verge of starvation. Yet so assiduous were the efforts of Government, and so unsparing its expenditure, that famine was arrested, plenty restored, and, in place of the mortality which would otherwise inevitably have occurred, the very districts where famine threatened most darkly now show the largest advance, and the proportion borne to the whole population by the aged is, with one exception, higher in this Division than it is in any other part of Bengal.

Durbhunga.

120. But though the true increase is believed to be large, there are grounds for saying that here, as elsewhere, the increase is partly fallacious. For the Durbhunga district this statement is capable of proof. In the autumn of the year 1874, when ripening crops and returning prosperity relieved the famine officers of that district of a part of the pressure which they had sustained for the nine previous months, Mr. MacDonnell, then in charge of the Durbhunga subdivision, with the approval of Government and through the agency of the famine relief establishment, organised and successfully

carried out a careful census of the head-quarters subdivision. This enumeration, which was taken by a selected body of men, whom nine months of a constant personal investigation had familiarised with every village in their circles, necessarily reaches a very high standard of correctness, and may be considered as nearly accurate as a census can be. Its results showed an apparent increase of 25 per cent in the population in the space of two and a half years, one of which had been marked with general and severe distress. During the same time the density of the population advanced from 645 to 747 per square mile. Two years later the same officer was still in charge of Durbhunga, which had by this time been raised to the status of a district and had been enlarged by the addition of two subdivisions. In one of these, the subdivision of Madhubani, there were signs at the end of 1875 of approaching scarcity, and arrangements were made to combat it. Happily, these apprehensions were not realised; but Mr. MacDonnell, anxious not to lose so favourable an opportunity, employed the staff at his disposal to revise the census of Madhubani, as he had already revised that of Durbhunga. The results obtained in this inquiry were of a very similar character to those obtained in Durbhunga in 1874. The population of Madhubani in 1876 was found to be 826,753 as against 689,741 in 1872, showing an increase of 137,012 persons, or 20 per cent, during a period of little over four years. During the same time the density of the population advanced from 538 to 645 to the square mile. These small census operations have been noticed at length for two reasons: first, because they show that the increase now found where the results of the census of 1881 are contrasted with those of the census of 1872 is in great part apparent only; and secondly, because they demonstrate the truth of the proposition stated elsewhere in this report, that the accuracy of each census may be gauged by the increasing proportion the women bear to the men on the whole population. In both these cases the second census was beyond dispute more carefully taken and more accurate than the first, and in both cases the results show, like those of the present census of 1881, an increase in the proportion of women to men. In the Durbhunga subdivision the number of females in every 100 of the population was 48·97 in 1872, while it increased to 50·51 in 1874 and to 54·61 in 1881. In the Madhubani subdivision in 1872 there were 48·55 females in every 100 of the population, a percentage which increased to 50·87 in 1876 and was 50·60 in 1881. So that leaving male emigration out of consideration, if the theory above stated be accepted it may be said that the census of the Durbhunga and Madhubani subdivisions in 1881 was more accurate by 11·28 and 4·10 per cent respectively than that of 1872, those figures being in each case the sum of the percentages by which the males were overstated and the females understated at the first of the two dates.

121. For the increase of the rest of the Patna Division, and for part of that in the Durbhunga district, there seems no reason to doubt that the natural advance of population is responsible in a tract of country which has not suffered materially from disease, and where impending scarcity was more than averted. This is the explanation given by all the district officers without exception, while some of them support their argument by facts. Thus the Collector of Shahabad points to the fact that during the last ten years the opening of the irrigation canals in his district has largely developed its cultivation, particularly that of the sugarcane, has improved the material prosperity of the people, and raised the price of labour. From Durbhunga the Collector reports that the settlement of rents in the Alapore pergunnah has given security of tenure to the cultivators and planted on the soil a numerous body of men who, if they were present at all before, were there only as squatters, and were always a shifting and uncertain quantity. The Collector of Mozufferpore, adopting the report of Mr. Brett, his Joint-Magistrate, points out that the population of his district, if it increased, as it has done, at the rate of 15 per cent in nine years, or 1·55 per annum, would double itself in about sixty years; and in support of the probability of this result and the accuracy of the enumeration he refers to a rough census made by Mr. G. P. Ricketts, Collector of Tirhoot, in 1802. That officer estimated the population in that year to be 2,000,000 persons; in 1872, seventy years afterwards, it was reported to be 4,384,706, though in all probability its real total was nearer 4,500,000, which would give an increase of 1·25 per cent in 70 years, or 1·78 per cent per annum—an increase which will approach very near to 1·55

Shahabad.

Mozufferpore.

per cent if we reflect that the estimate of 2,000,000 was probably under the mark, as almost all early estimates of the population were. Lastly, the Collector of Sarun, dissecting the figures for his district, shows that the large increase of 16 per cent which the most distant of his subdivisions gives is probably due to indifferent enumeration in 1872, since the head-quarters subdivision, which intermediate tests have shown to have been very carefully censused, only gives an increase of 6 per cent. The explanation is no doubt true; but it seems clear that the real increase throughout the district has been about 10 per cent, which is the figure returned for the Sewan subdivision. Sarun is one of the most purely agricultural districts in Bengal; the fertility of its soil is unsurpassed, and the pressure of its population may be inferred from the fact that in the thannahs of Manjhi and Digwara, which contain no towns or large trade centres, the density of the population reaches 1,084 and 1,054 persons to the square mile. In these and similar thannahs it is obvious that without the considerable emigration which notoriously goes on there could be no room for newcomers. To this cause must chiefly be ascribed the great excess in the thickly populated parts of the district of females over males, and the fact that Sarun emigrants are found in almost every district of Bengal, so much so that the number of males born in Sarun and found elsewhere in Bengal at the census of 1881 was 124,211, or 10·5 per cent of all the living males returned as born in this district. The Collector of Chumparun, while admitting that there has been some real increase, opines that a considerable proportion of the reported advance is due to better enumeration giving the fact that the advance has been greatest in that part of the district where there was least room for it, and that it is greater among females than among the other sex. In the thannahs of the Patna district the principal increase is in those which lie along the main lines of communication, *i.e.* the river Ganges, the Patna and Gya Railway, and the Patna branch of the Sone Canal. The great city of Patna was only slightly more populous in 1881 than it was in 1872, the increase in those nine years having been only 11·23 per cent. A large portion of this increase, which is greater among males than females, is provided by the Bankipore thannah, which lies along the river bank and includes the civil station of the same name.

Sarun.

Chumparun.

Patna.

122. The increase in the Bhaugulpore Division amounts only to the comparatively small figure of 10·6 for both sexes, 10·03 being for males and 11·18 for females. With the exception of the Sonthal Pergunnahs the several districts show an increase considerably below the average. Writing of the figures for the Sonthal Pergunnahs, the Deputy Commissioner states that the increase noted is not to be ascribed to any real advance in the population of his district or to any change in its conditions, but simply to the much more accurate enumeration carried out in 1881; and he quotes, in illustration of his assertion, the figures of the Jamtara subdivision, which were notoriously below the truth in 1872 and now show an apparent increase of nearly 53 per cent. This explanation can hardly be accepted without question, for it must be remarked that it ignores the well-established fact that the Sonthals are one of the most prolific races in Bengal, as their age tables show; and it does not take into account the 148,860 immigrants in the district, amounting to 9·49 per cent of its whole population, many of whom must have come there since 1872. In Monghyr and Bhaugulpore, on the other hand, the Census Report of 1872 and the figures now returned combine to show that the former census was very carefully carried out, and the moderate increase represents the natural advance of a somewhat stagnant population. The census of Purneah in 1872, taken by the Collector, Mr. Worgan, has always been held up as a model of careful and accurate enumeration, and the small increase now observed fully corroborates this opinion. Had the increase been large, its accuracy must have been questioned, for the district is one which suffers much from fever, and which has made but little progress during the last decade, while the general accuracy of Mr. Worgan's enumeration and his knowledge of the district are emphasised by the fulfilment of his forecast that if the census he supervised had a fault, it would be found to lie in the omission of part of the female population. Accordingly it is found that in this district the increase among the females is higher than among the males, as it is in all others of the Division except the Sonthal Pergunnahs, where hostility and suspicion are still strong enough to conceal the existence of many women. In Maldah the smallness of the increase

The Bhaugulpore Division.

The Sonthal Pergunnahs.

Monghyr. Bhaugulpore.

Purneah.

Maldah.

is ascribed to the effect of four years of exceptional mortality in an unhealthy part of the district.

123. The increase in the remaining three Divisions, all situated within Bengal proper, is below the average for the whole province, and in each it is owing to a special cause. The percentage of increase in the Presidency Division is only 6·01 per cent (males 6·06 and females 5·95), and is as much below the figures for the Bhaugulpore Division as those of that Division are below the Patna figures. This effect is caused by an absolute decrease in the population of the Suburbs of Calcutta, and a nominal increase in the population of Calcutta itself and of the Moorshedabad district. The stationary position of the City of Calcutta and the decline in the population of the Suburbs are fully discussed in the report of Mr. Beverley, the officer specially deputed to carry out the census of those places. He points out that in Calcutta the whole of the increase is due to a large advance of 10,504 in the population of the port; so that the true figures for the town proper, like those for the Suburbs, show a falling off under each sex and in the total. These results have been caused partly by the public improvements which have been carried out in Calcutta in recent years and have necessitated the removal of a large number of native huts from different parts of the town, partly by the centrifugal force which is always at work in large cities, sending those who work there during the day to comparatively distant homes for the night, partly to the different seasons of the year at which the two censuses were taken, and partly by a variation in the conditions of the demand for labour, which tends more and more every year to replace manual labour by machinery and steam. The decrease in the Suburbs is attributed partly to their growing unhealthiness and partly to the same centrifugal force which has been alluded to above.

The Presidency Division.

Calcutta and its Suburbs.

124. In Moorshedabad the very small increase denotes the decay of a once thriving commercial centre and the depopulation of a great city. A glance at the thannah figures shows that the greatest falling off has been in the population of the thannahs of the Sudder and Lal Bagh subdivisions, which comprise the city of Moorshedabad with its large commercial suburb of Azimgunge. Something also is due to the ravages of fever, which prevailed virulently in this district during the autumn of 1880. The increase of 11·31 per cent in Nuddea (viz. 12·32 per cent among males and 10·35 per cent among females) is the highest in the Division; and if the figures of 1872 were correct, this result is extremely remarkable. The Collector's explanation is that the increase represents merely the natural excess of births over deaths, aided by a comparatively small contingent of 10,000 pilgrims who were censused in the district while on their way to or from a religious fair at Nobodwip. Deducting this number from the total, there still remains the large excess of 195,052 persons, or 10·75 per cent over the figures of 1872, giving an average annual increase of 21,672 persons, or 1·19 per cent. Yet this district has lately been terribly ravaged by malarious fever, which, commencing in July 1880, raged throughout the autumn of that year and the whole of the following year, claiming 54,420 reported deaths in 1880 and 73,196 in 1881, of which 13,304 are said to have occurred during the first two months of the year. Accepting the Sanitary Commissioner's figures as correct, the district lost 56,151 persons, or more than 2 per cent of its inhabitants, from fever alone during the eight months which preceded the census. It is beyond doubt, however, and is admitted by the Sanitary Commissioner, that the deaths which actually occurred far exceeded those which were reported; and it seems certain that the deaths during those months were more like 80,000, or nearly 4 per cent of the whole population. Yet in spite of this frightful depletion the population has advanced during the whole nine years which have elapsed since 1872 by 205,052, or 11·31 per cent—an advance which, in a district where the immigration is trifling, implies a fecundity during the first eight years of the period hardly to be surpassed among the aboriginal tribes of the Orissa and Chota Nagpore Divisions, and unequalled in similarly circumstanced districts of Bengal. On a review of the whole facts, therefore, it seems probable that the census of 1872 was not so well taken in this district as was at first believed, and that part of the increase now found is due to this cause.

Moorshedabad.

Nuddea.

125. The lately established Khulna district comprises the three subdivisions of Khulna, Bagirhat, and Satkhira; the two former of which belonged in 1872 to the district of Jessore, and the third to that of the 24-Pergunnahs. Although not

Khulna.

then forming one district, the 1872 figures for these subdivisions have been compared with those for the same area in 1881, with the result of a small increase of 3·15 per cent, most of which is due to progress in the Khulna subdivision itself, for Bagirhat shows an advance of less than one-half per cent, and the increase in Satkhira is less than 3 per cent. The decrease in certain thannahs of the Bagirhat subdivision is attributed by the district officer to the abandonment of much cultivated land in and near the Sundarbuns following upon the sale of the Morrell estate some years ago, and also to the fact that the census of 1872 having been taken somewhat earlier in the year it included great numbers of reapers, who come from all parts to cut the rice in the Sundarbuns of this district, and who had finished their work and returned when the census of 1881 was taken in a later month. The diminution of the population in the Satkhira subdivision is said to be due to the silting up of the Eastern Bengal canal route and to the consequent falling off in the water-side population.

Jessore.

126. Jessore shows an increase of 8·66 per cent, the increase among the men (8·91) being slightly larger than that among the women (8·41). No special reason is assigned for what is merely a natural increase, and which would have been greater had not Jessore suffered like Nuddea, though not to the same extent, from malarious fever.

The 24-Pergunnahs.

127. The metropolitan district of the 24-Pergunnahs shows an increase of nearly 6 per cent (5·93), of which 6·52 is claimed by the males and 5·31 by the females of the population. The whole of this advance is found in the southern part of the district, the climate of which is reported to be particularly healthy, and where the pioneers of cultivation are constantly and steadily pushing back the Sundarbun forests. In the north and east of the district, comprising the Dum-Dum, Barrackpore, and Baraset subdivisions, the district officer clearly shows that the falling off in the population is due to the increasing unhealthiness of the tract, which is said to be deficient in drainage and a prey to malaria.

The Rajshahye Division.

128. To the general increase of 4·78 per cent in the Rajshahye Division the seven districts of which it is composed contribute in a very different degree; for while two districts, Darjeeling and Julpigoree, show a very large advance of 63·84 per cent and 38·90 per cent respectively, there is an absolute decrease of 2·58 per cent in Rungpore, a very small increase in Dinagepore of ·82 per cent, and an insignificant advance in the other districts, being 8·26 per cent in Pubna, 6·51 per cent in Bogra, and 2·14 per cent in Rajshahye. In the two districts which show the greatest percentage of increase, viz. Darjeeling and Julpigoree, the explanation of the advance is different, though they have something in common. In neither district was the census of 1872 taken with complete success; but while this cause is quite sufficient in Julpigoree (where the difficulties were unusually great) to account for the increase noted, it is assisted in Darjeeling by the great development of tea cultivation in the district within the last ten years.

Julpigoree

129. In the Julpigoree district the increase is 38·90 per cent for both sexes, the elements of the advance being 40·87 for males and 36·79 for females. When the census of 1872 was taken, a large portion of this district, known as the Western Dooars, was still in process of settlement; but it was a wild and unhealthy tract, and extremely difficult to bring under enumeration, so that no actual census of its population was taken, and instead of that the Settlement Officer's estimate of population was accepted, which placed the total at 90,680. Even in the more settled parts of the district the want of means of communication, the distances between the scattered homesteads of the people, and the difficulty and danger of the work, combined to make a synchronous enumeration impossible and a prolonged census unreliable. Since the census of 1872 the Western Dooars have been extensively opened up, and while a part of them has been added to the Mynaguri thannah of the Sudder subdivision, the remainder has been erected into the independent subdivision of Alipur. Unhappily no details of the transfer or particulars as to previous boundaries and previous population are available, as all the papers connected with the subject were lost in the conflagration which destroyed the Deputy Commissioner's Office at Julpigoree in 1877. It is therefore impossible to compare or contrast the population in each thannah at the two censuses, and all that can be said is that the general district increase amounts to 38·90 per cent. From what has been said above, it will be clear that

a great part of this apparent increase must be put down to the greater accuracy of the census just taken; but there is no doubt that a considerable portion of it represents a real advance in the population. Since 1872 tea cultivation has made great strides in Julpigoree, 53 new tea estates having been opened in the interval, with an acreage of 12,734 acres under tea; and though the enterprise may still be said to be in its infancy, when its present position is compared with its possible future, yet it has attracted to the western part of the district much European capital and native labour. The number of persons found in the district on the census night who were born outside its boundaries was 86,585, or 14·88 per cent of the whole population, the males being in the proportion of four to every three females. Most of these immigrants have certainly entered the district during the last nine years for employment on the tea estates and the railway; but even if it be assumed that they have all arrived during that period, there would still be a large increase to be explained of 24 per cent in the nine years, or 2·66 per cent per annum, which is nearly twice the reported average annual increase for the whole province. Yet the district is notoriously unhealthy, its inhabitants are saturated with malaria, and the deadly Terai, which, though now partly cleared, has for ages covered the feet of the mountains with a skirt of miasmatic jungle, still claims every year its long list of victims to fever and ague. There can, therefore, be no doubt that a very large portion of the reported increase is due to the deficiencies of the 1872 census, and that, so far from showing a large increase, the population of the district in 1891 may be expected to be much what it now is, unless tea cultivation is much further extended or the climatic conditions of life in Julpigoree undergo a radical change.

Darjeeling.

130. The increase over the whole of the Darjeeling district is 63·84 per cent, the males having advanced by 67·64 and the females by 58·99 per cent. In the hill portion of the district the population has nearly doubled itself, having advanced from 46,727 in 1872 to 91,938 in 1881, or 96·76 per cent. This part of the district is divided into three parts, viz. the subdivisions of Darjeeling proper, of Kurseong, which lies lower down the slope of the mountains, and of Kalimpong, which is separated from the rest of the district by the river Teesta. The two subdivisions first named contain the greater number of the tea-gardens in the district, and are at once the most healthy and the least thinly-populated parts of the district. The Kalimpong subdivision is an outlying tract of country, and though there is some tea grown along the lower slopes of its hills and in the belt of partially cleared forest which divides them from the plains, most of the subdivision is still forest and hill top inhabited by the aborigines of the country or by immigrants from Bhootan and Sikkim. To what extent each of these subdivisions has increased it is impossible to say, inasmuch as the area and population of each of them in 1872 is not now available; but it is to be remarked that the officer in charge of the district in 1872 was obliged to admit that owing to unavoidable circumstances the census of the Kalimpong subdivision was quite untrustworthy, and that the census of what is now the Kurseong subdivision was not entirely satisfactory. The Terai subdivision, as its name imports, embraces that part of the Darjeeling district which lies at the foot of the Himalayas. The enumeration of its inhabitants in 1872 was worthless, owing to the fact that at the most critical period of the census operations the officer in charge of the sub-division deserted his post. Taking the district as a whole, therefore, it may be concluded that, except in the larger villages and on the tea estates, where much valuable assistance was given by their managers, the figures returned in 1872 were very much below the mark.

131. Yet it is probably not too much to say that half the reported increase of the population is real, and is due to the development of the tea industry in this district. How great the effect of the growth of this enterprise has been may be judged from the few statistics given below. In the year 1871 the number of registered companies for the cultivation of tea in the Darjeeling district was 10, with a capital of Rs. 37,45,000. Ten years later the number of tea companies was 33, with a capital of Rs. 85,73,000. These are all public companies registered under the Indian Companies Act; but including private estates, the number of tea estates, public and private, in Darjeeling in 1871 was 62, with an area of 12,305 acres planted with tea. In 1881, ten years afterwards, the number of these estates had risen to 271, and the acreage under tea had advanced

to 42,217 acres, the number of estates having thus increased not far from 500 per cent, and the acreage being much more than trebled. The Customs and Trade Reports of the province, more especially of the Port of Calcutta, show what a stride was made during the same period in the amount and value of the tea produced. In 1870-71 the amount of tea exported from Lower Bengal, mostly through the Port of Calcutta, was 12,811,618lb, valued at Rs. 1,07,86,865; in 1880-81 the quantity of tea had risen to nearly four times the amount, viz. 45,797,823lb, while its certified value in that year—a year of bad prices—was Rs. 2,99,57,217. How much of this vast export came from Assam it is not now possible to say, but the figures represent an advance in the Darjeeling and Julpigoree country at least equal to that in the districts lying further to the east, and denote the prodigious development of operations whose characteristic is the employment of an enormous quantity of manual labour. To this rapidly increasing demand the local supply of labour was quite unequal, and the result has been an unexampled immigration, so that in the Darjeeling district more than half the population (52·44 per cent) were born outside its limits, their total number being 155,179, in the proportion of eight males to six females. Of this number 55,000 are hillmen from beyond the British frontier, chiefly from Nepal, nearly 5,000 came from the neighbouring district of Julpigoree, more than 10,000 from Purneah, and the remainder are composed of representatives from almost every district in Bengal and province in India.

Pubna.

132. Next in order of increase to these two districts stands Pubna, with a percentage of increase of 8·26, of which 7·60 per cent is contributed by the males and 8·92 by the females. This increase is distributed over every thannah of the district, and is exaggerated only in two, that of Dulai (21·07) in the head-quarters subdivision, and that of Raigunge (12·07) in the Serajgunge subdivision. There seems to be no considerable migration either into or from the district, and the increase noted may be taken as the natural advance of a simple agricultural and unenterprising people in a fairly healthy district.

Bogra.

133. The Bogra district presents very similar features, its advance being for both sexes 6·51 per cent; but it is remarkable that the increase in the number of males is 7·13 per cent, while that of females is only 5·87 per cent. One thannah, that of Adamdighi, through which the railway passes, shows a large increase of 13·14 per cent, which is made up of an advance of 14·53 for males and 11·78 for females.

Rajshahye.

134. Rajshahye returns the very small increase of 2·14 per cent; but here, unlike Bogra, the advance in the number of women is nearly twice as great as that in the number of men. The advance is trivial, and denotes a stagnant population with no immigration. Within the district itself the decline of the silk manufacture has gradually driven the population from the west and south of the district, where the mulberry was formerly grown in large quantities, to the north-east, where the increasing value of the rice crop, coupled with the improvement of the soil from the silting up of the great swamp known as the Chullun Bheel, has given a great stimulus to the growth of this grain.

Dinagepore.

135. Dinagepore has made no progress at all during the last nine years, for the advance of the population has only been ·82 per cent, which would be much more than accounted for by better enumeration. This pitiable result is due only to the ravages of malarious fever, for which this district has as evil a reputation as its neighbour Rungpore. In 1872 the reported deaths from fever in Dinagepore were higher than in any other district of the Division. The four following years showed little improvement, and in 1876 the fever mortality was 22·05 per mille of the whole population. In 1877, which a general consensus of opinion declares to have been the most unhealthy year in this district within living memory, this rate rose to 24·37 and 30·06, and over 36,000 deaths were reported from this cause alone. Out of seventeen adult Europeans fifteen had to leave the district during the year, broken by repeated attacks of fever, and official business could hardly be carried on. This terrible mortality drew renewed attention to the insanitary condition of the district, and a committee was appointed to report on the causes of this great unhealthiness, and to suggest means for improving the health of the station. The investigations of the committee demonstrated the existence of a terrible amount of constant sickness and a very high death-rate. An examination of nearly 1,000 individuals showed that nearly 75 per cent of the inhabitants were in bad health, while 53 per cent

had marked enlargement of the spleen. It so happened that this district was at the time that in which death registration was best carried out in all Bengal; and it was found that the death-rate in the municipality was 42 per mille, nearly double the death-rate of London, while the police died at the rate of 46 and the prisoners in jail at the rate of 74·6 per mille per annum. Eventually a scheme was drawn up and carried out for draining the neighbourhood of the chief town itself, which has been followed with beneficial results. A slight remission of fever followed in 1878 and 1879, but it returned with increased virulence in 1880.

Rungpore.

136. The decrease of 2·58 per cent in the Rungpore district, viz. 2·66 for males and 2·50 for females, is the resultant of opposing forces within the district itself which produce a remarkable diversity in its thannah figures. The Rungpore district contains four subdivisions; and while in two of them, Gaibanda and Bagdogra, there is an increase of 4·43 and 3·05 per cent respectively, the other two, viz. the sudder subdivision and that of Kurigram, are marked by a decrease, which amounts to 6·91 per cent in the first case and 6·62 per cent in the second. Of the sixteen thannahs, again, into which the district is divided, eleven show a falling off; and it is only by the large advance which one of the remaining five displays that the district is saved from a considerable decrease. This very unequal distribution of the population ceases to be mysterious if a map of the district is consulted, for it then appears that the falling off has been in well-marked tracts along the north-east and east of the district, and that in consequence the south-east and north-west of the district are those which have advanced most in population. In the excellent report on the census of this district, which was almost the last work he completed before his lamented death, the late Mr. Magrath carefully examined the causes of these variations. His conclusions were that while the absolute decrease over the district as a whole, and in certain specified thannahs, is due to the prevalence of fatal diseases, much of the fluctuation noticed in the population of the various thannahs since 1872 has been caused by a remarkable movement of the population from one part of the district to another. Rungpore fever has passed into a proverb in Bengal; and though it is now, thanks to improved drainage, less virulent than formerly in the town of Rungpore itself, its effects on the population of the district are still widespread and unmistakeable. It is a slow lingering fever, usually attended with spleen and liver complications, and leading in the damp cold of the winter months to dropsy, phthisis, and other pulmonary affections. The Collector states in his report that in the three years 1878, 1879, and 1880 there were 66,271 *reported* deaths in the district from this cause, giving an average annual death-rate of 10·53 per mille, which, if all the deaths were correctly reported, would rise to a considerably higher figure. During the year 1874 the Civil Surgeon took steps to ascertain the state of health of the people in different parts of the district, and his conclusion was that "80 per cent of the population were anæmic, or suffered from enlarged spleen or were laid up with illness, while of the 20 per cent found healthy one half could not be considered so in the European sense of the word." From the fact that the rich were not more exempt from sickness than the poor, he rightly inferred that the unhealthiness of the district was not due to poverty or privation, but to the malaria in which the whole country is steeped. Phthisis and similar pulmonary diseases are very prevalent, mostly as the sequelæ of fever, and chiefly among the people living on the low, cold, and damp banks and islands of the Brahmaputra to the east and north-east of the district.

137. The other causes alluded to above as directing the fluctuations in the population of the different thannahs are partly physical and partly agricultural and commercial. In 1878-79 the eastern and north-eastern portions of Rungpore suffered severely from a great inundation of the Brahmaputra, which has moreover during the past ten years destroyed by erosion a considerable portion of this part of the district, so that the population has steadily been driven away to the higher and healthier country in the centre and south-west of the district. In the next place the great profits of jute cultivation have to a very great extent forced out of favour the cultivation of other crops, and have caused a large migration of agriculturists from less favourable soils to places in the south and south-west of the district, where jute grows well and is easily disposed of. Lastly, the opening of the Northern Bengal Railway

through the sudder and northern subdivisions of the district has had a direct effect upon the population of the thannahs through which it passes, particularly in the Darwani thannah, in which Saidpur, the central station of the line, is situated, containing large workshops and a considerable bazaar. Briefly, it may be said that while the increase of the people has been absolutely checked by fever and other diseases, there has been a general movement of the population from the north and east to the south in search of healthier habitations and more suitable land, except where it has been arrested by the counter attraction of the Railway in the north-west of the district.

The Chittagong Division.

138. Of the Divisions which show any increase at all, that of Chittagong stands lowest in the list. To that increase the different districts of the Division contribute in the following degree:—

District.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.
Chittagong Hill Tracts...	+45·95	+38·31	+56 84
Tipperah	+7·85	+7·19	+8·54
Chittagong	+ ·43	—·82	+1·58
Noakholly	—2·33	—2·51	—2·14

The Chittagong Hill Tracts.

139. The enormous advance in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, coupled as it is with an excess in the increase of women, clearly denotes a much greater accuracy of enumeration. In 1872 indeed no attempt was made to render the census synchronous, the enumeration was not tested in any way, and the returns "were confessedly incorrect." In that year the census was taken by the tribal chiefs themselves, each of whom was told to submit returns of the people owing allegiance to himself, wherever situated, whether in his own territory or elsewhere. Such an estimate, even if honestly made, must necessarily have contained a large percentage of error; but when it is remembered that it was to the interest of each chief to place the numbers of his tribe as low as possible, inasmuch as his revenue is paid in the form of a capitation-tax on the number of families owing him allegiance, the inaccuracy of the returns ceases to be a cause of surprise. Furthermore, there is reason to believe that considerable numbers of aboriginal tribes owing allegiance to none of the principal chiefs, and living in outlying tracts, escaped enumeration altogether in 1872. For the census just taken the preliminary enumeration was conducted, as before, by the local chiefs themselves, but their work was then tested by paid supervisors, who were carefully-selected men. As an instance of the value of this check, it may be mentioned that in one chief's circle the supervisor discovered the concealment or omission from enumeration of 4,000 persons. Having in view, however, the enormous excess still shown in the number of males, it is impossible to doubt that the figures now given are still far from the truth, although the Deputy Commissioner states his belief that this excess is partly real, and is due not only to an excess of male births, but to the fact that among the hill-people it is the woman who does all the hard work, and that therefore male lives here are better than female lives. It has already been stated that the schedules used in the enumeration of this district were of a very simple character, and omitted many points on which information was asked and obtained in the schedules ordinarily employed in Bengal. Amongst the points thus given up were those of age and birthplace; so that it is impossible to calculate what amount of the reported increase is due to the natural progress of the people, and how much to immigration. But from the known condition of the district it may be said that the latter has little or no effect in its progress, and that the reported advance may be attributed in equal parts to natural increase and to more correct enumeration. It should be mentioned, in conclusion, that the figures of the census of 1872 included the Looshai field force, numbering 6,553 persons, almost all of whom were of the male sex.

Tipperah.

140. The percentages of increase for the Tipperah district are as follows:— both sexes 7·85, males 7·19, females 8·54. But they are composed of very different results in different parts of the district. There is no immigration

worth noticing into this district, and the Collector attributes the increase partly to natural causes—for the Tipperah ryots are among the most prosperous even of the fortunate cultivators of Eastern Bengal—and partly to the much greater accuracy claimed for the late census operations.

Chittagong.

141. The Chittagong population may be said to be stationary, for it has advanced during nine years less than one half per cent. Among the men indeed there is a falling off of ·82 per cent, while the women have advanced 1·58 per cent. It should be remembered that cholera is endemic in the district, and that it has been ravaged for years by a peculiarly fatal and debilitating type of fever, so that rapid increase in population can never be expected here. Moreover, the cheapness of land and the high wages of labour in Arrakan attract many settlers every year from the Chittagong district. It is true that the proportion of children to the total population is in this district considerably above the average, a phenomenon which would suggest unusual fertility; but the true explanation is that this proportion is forced up to an unreal height by the small proportion which the adults, especially those of the male sex, bear to the whole population. This disproportion is caused by the absence of large numbers at sea or as boatmen in inland waters, and to the great exodus of coolies to British Burmah which takes place every winter from the centre and south of the district, where the population is most dense, the emigrants returning again to cut their crops in the summer. This custom is growing yearly in popular favour, and no doubt accounts for an appreciable portion of the falling off in the southern parts of the district. Yet there is no doubt that in spite of this emigration and of the notorious unhealthiness of this district it would have showed a distinct advance had it not been for the disastrous effects of the storm-wave and its consequent cholera, in which Chittagong shared with Backergunge and Noakholly. The formation of the land at the mouth of the Megna and the circumstances attending the onset of the storm-wave have already been described in paragraph 116 above, and need not be repeated. The disaster was aggravated in the case of the Chittagong and Noakholly districts by the fact that the inundation which swept over their seaboard was one of salt water, so that the food in the stores was damaged and the water-supply contaminated. The inundation in Chittagong extended inland to a distance of from three to six miles, except where the mouths of rivers and creeks afforded the storm-wave an easy entrance, and there the flood passed much further up and spread over the country for miles. It is estimated that in the few hours during which the country was submerged 12,000 persons were drowned in the Chittagong district alone, and 14,788 are said to have perished in the cholera epidemic which followed. This outbreak took place almost immediately after the subsidence of the water, extended over the whole area of the inundation, and was of a remarkably fatal type. The Civil Surgeon of Chittagong, in his report for the year, graphically describes the effects of the storm-wave and the attack of the epidemic. He writes:—

The Cyclone and Storm-wave of 1876.

"The cyclone, but more especially the inundation by the tidal bore which accompanied it, swept away, destroyed, or damaged the greater portion of the grain and other food upon which the people depended for their living. Their cattle were drowned, and the whole coast was strewn with their carcasses. The weather here in the end of October is cold, and the morning of the 1st November saw thousands of people rendered homeless and suddenly exposed to the cold temperature and wet, for during the storm 2·50 inches of a drifting rain fell. The inclemency of the weather doubtless caused much distress and suffering, and rendered many debilitated systems an easy prey to cholera.

"The consumption of damaged rice during the first fourteen days after the storm was almost universal among the people. In the districts visited by the storm-wave little or none escaped contamination. . . . . The appearance of the rice was most forbidding, and it smelt putrid in many instances.

"Bad water may be considered as the chief exciting cause of this fatal pestilence. The entire country over which the storm-wave passed was deprived of fresh water. . . . Not only was the water in the tanks rendered brackish with brine, but it was also putrid with dead organic matter. The salt water killed the aquatic plants and fish, and these at once decomposing rendered the water fouler than ever. . . . . Carcasses of men and animals likewise added to the corruption of the water. The stench that arose from this putrid infusion was almost insupportable, and we know that organic matter in contact with salt water is especially noxious.

"So great was the smell that the natives travelling along the roads, more especially along the Sitakund Road, covered their nostrils and mouths with their dress. The air for

miles was tainted with the odour of decomposing bodies, which covered the country in every direction. . . . . The breeze from the sea carried the poisoned air across the roads and into the adjacent hills.

"We thus had all the elements necessary to bring on pestilence, viz. shock, panic, debility from sudden exposure, large consumption of unwholesome food, impure drinking-water, and a poisoned atmosphere. In a country which is the endemic abode of cholera, and from which cholera is rarely absent, it is a matter of no surprise that the pestilence assumed the form it did."

142. The thannahs which suffered most severely from the storm-wave were those of Mirserai and Kumira, and they show a decrease of 8·70 per cent and 7·08 per cent respectively. The cholera which succeeded it spread all along the sea coast, and thus caused part of the decrease of 7·53 per cent reported from the Banskhali thannah. Part of the falling off is due, however, to another cause, for it appears that the storm-wave sweeping over some embanked villages in this thannah washed away the embankments and so injured the land that the cultivators have deserted their holdings in large numbers and gone elsewhere.

Noakholly.

143. The case of Noakholly is on a par with that of Chittagong; but owing to its greater exposure to the storm-wave its losses have been greater, so that the decrease is 2·33 per cent for both sexes, being 2·51 for males and 2·14 for females. The deaths from drowning in the cyclone and storm-wave are believed to have been 36,324 in number, while 49,061 died of the sickness which followed it, making a total of 85,385 lives lost in this double calamity. Most of this mortality fell upon the southern thannahs of Hattia, Begumganj, and Sundip, and its extent may be guessed by the fact that more than four years after the event these thannahs show a falling off from the figures of 1872 of 25·58 per cent, 15·54 per cent, and 16·72 per cent respectively. But for this calamity the district officer reports that there would certainly have been a large increase, for the peasantry who were destroyed were a most prosperous class. Cultivation is now everywhere extending, and population advances. In the north and east of the district there is a slight falling off, very marked among the males, which is explained by the absence of many persons at the time of the census, who were employed in collecting forest produce in Hill Tipperah; and it is asserted that from this portion of the district there is some permanent emigration to that state, as the Maharajah insists upon residence within his territories as a qualification for grants of cultivable land.

The Burdwan Division.

144. The only Division in Bengal which shows a decrease is one which a quarter of a century ago was considered one of the most salubrious in the province. The history of the decrease of the population in the Burdwan Division is the history of the famous Burdwan fever. It is true that this terrible epidemic did not claim so many victims in the decade which has elapsed since the census of 1872 as in that which preceded it, but the ravages of the disease have not yet been repaired, the ruined villages have not yet been rebuilt, jungle still flourishes where populous hamlets once stood, and while many of those who fled before the fever have not returned, the impaired powers of the survivors have not sufficed to fill the smiling land with a new population.

The "Burdwan Fever."

145. How this terrible disease was generated, and how it was extended, are questions still debated among those most competent to give an opinion on the subject; and one solution of the difficulty is that a change took place in the characteristics of the fever during the twelve years that it prevailed, so that the disease which was so fatal in 1873 was not the same as that which decimated the population in 1862. That it was a malarious fever is universally admitted, and that by some means or other it travelled steadily in a general direction from east to west is beyond controversy; but here unanimity ceases. Thus, on the one hand, the Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal, writing in 1874, says that "the fever, originally malarious, acquired, either in Jessore or Nuddea, contagious properties," was thus carried into Burdwan and the other districts of the Division, and became "a contagious malarious fever, probably typho-malarial." In support of this belief it is urged that the advance of the epidemic followed the main roads and the chief lines of traffic, and that it did not spread in any direction where means of communications did not exist. On the other hand, equally reliable authorities, including the resident surgeons, who for years combated the fever in the districts of this Division, assert that the fever, though malarious, was not contagious. Thus the late Dr. Elliot, who, as Civil Surgeon of Burdwan, had unrivalled opportunities for studying its features, describes it as

"an exaggerated and congestive form of malarious fever, most frequently of the intermittent type, generally assuming the most intense and asthenic character in localities where the recognised predisposing causes of the disease preponderate most." So, again, the Civil Surgeon of Beerbhoom says :—" I can come to no other conclusion than that the Burdwan fever was a non-contagious malarious fever, gradually increasing in severity in any given place as the malaria-producing condition of the soil became more and more developed, and gradually decreasing as that condition of the soil also passed away, more or less completely ; that the disease was not communicated from individual to individual or from mass to mass, but broke out successively in different places in correspondence with the progress of its steadily advancing cause." Those who hold the latter view and reject the theory of contagion believe that the increasing malaria of these districts, and its advance from east to west, were due to the country being waterlogged, the natural drainage obstructed, and the subsoil completely saturated with retained moisture. To account for this drainage obstruction and the malaria to which it gave rise two theories were pushed forward. According to the first the outbreak of disease was sporadic, and each had its local cause of drainage obstruction; according to the second, and far more plausible, theory, the incidence of the disease was everywhere due to the same cause, viz. changes in the Gangetic delta, which made the disease travel from south and east to north and west. Such a travelling cause, it was truly said, might be due either to changes affecting the rivers of the country only, or to changes of elevation and depression affecting the whole area, or to both causes combined. On the whole it may probably be concluded that the disease was a malarious non-contagious fever ; that its advance along roads and lines of communication was a coincidence merely, the fact being that it was not communicated by travellers, but that it found in the large villages and bazaars, which are inseparable from lines of traffic and centres of trade, a set of insanitary conditions most favourable to its development ; that it was a malarious fever rendered malignant wherever specially evil conditions favoured its development; and that it travelled steadily in a given general direction in obedience to some law which has not yet been discovered, unless that of a general and progressive obstruction of drainage over the whole affected area provides a satisfactory solution of the difficulty.

146. That the fever did travel is no matter for doubt. Like the waves of a flowing tide it touched a place one year and receded, reached it again next year with greater force and again receded, repeating this process till the country was wholly submerged and the tide passed further on. During the first year of its invasion the fever was mild; there was a simultaneous increase of the general endemic fever, and a subsidence of both, usual at the end of the fever season. In the second year the fever began earlier than the ordinary country fever and earlier than the epidemic fever of the previous year; it also lasted longer, and caused greater mortality. During the third year the disease was marked with still larger fatality both from primary attacks and secondary complications, the systems of those who had survived the two previous years being now so saturated with the malaria that they had little power to resist the attacks of the fever and fell rapid victims to it. During the fourth, fifth, and sixth years, six years being the average duration of the fever in any place, there was a general and slow recovery : the fever in each successive year attacked fewer persons, was of a less fatal type, and prevailed for a shorter period, finally disappearing altogether in the seventh year, but leaving many of its victims with a permanently enlarged spleen and other complications to indicate the trial which the system had undergone.

Its origin.

147. This fever, as has been said above, invaded the Burdwan Division from the east. It appears to have originated in the eastern part of the Presidency Division some 30 years ago. Fever was very fatal in the Jessore district in the years 1847 and 1848, and after a temporary cessation it broke out again in 1854-56. About this time it began to spread westward to Nuddea and the 24-Pergunnahs, and finally culminated in the severe epidemic which devastated those districts from 1857 to 1864. No notice of this fever seems to have been taken by the authorities till the end of 1861, although it prevailed in a most virulent form in Nuddea from the end of 1856. Towards the end of 1861, however, its ravages in the Baraset subdivision and the northern portion of the

24-Pergunnahs attracted the attention of Government, and efforts were made to combat it. A few months later measures of a similar kind were introduced in the Nuddea district, and in all the three districts then included in the Presidency Division relief operations were continued till the fever died out, about 1864. Briefly stated, this fever was most severe in the rainy season and the winter of the years 1860 to 1862-63. In the winter of 1863-64 there was a perceptible improvement, and a radical change for the better in that of 1864-65.

Its progress.

148. But while the epidemic was wearing itself out in the districts of the Presidency Division, where it was first observed, it had spread slowly westward into those of the Burdwan Division. The Burdwan district is separated from that of Nuddea by the Bhagirati river, and the thannahs of Burdwan, which abut on the river, are three, viz. Cutwa to the north, Purbasthali in the centre, and Culna to the south. It was in two riverside villages of the Culna thannah that the first cases of the epidemic occurred in the year 1862. In 1863 the fever reappeared in the Purbasthali and Culna thannahs, and, attacking first the villages on the river bank, advanced slowly inland, spreading also southward into the northern portion of Hooghly. In 1864 and 1865 the fever moved still further west both in Hooghly and Burdwan, and extended in a southerly direction through the former district to the boundaries of Howrah. The features of the epidemic in 1866 and 1867 were the same as in 1865, except that there was no further spread to the south in Hooghly and Howrah. In 1868 and 1869 a great advance occurred, the town of Burdwan being involved in the former year and the epidemic spreading far to the north and south, besides continuing its usual westerly progress. In 1870 its westward extension was not very great; but on the north it invaded Beerbhoom, and raged along an extensive tract on the southern portion of the district, the left bank of the Adjai river. In the following year, 1871, the extent of its advance was unprecedented; for not only did it progress many miles to the westward in Burdwan, but it spread to the north and north-west in Beerbhoom, and appeared in a large tract of country in the north of Midnapore. By 1872 the utmost westerly limit that the fever reached in Burdwan was attained, for it was arrested by the high land lying in the extreme west of the district and along the Bankura border; but the Beerbhoom district was devastated still further north than in the previous year, and in the Midnapore district a great southern extension took place, enveloping almost the whole of the north-eastern portion of the district. In 1873 the fever made no further westerly progress in Burdwan; and though still severe in the west, it was dying out gradually in those parts of the district where it had been first observed. In Hooghly and Beerbhoom also there was some slight abatement, but in Midnapore and Howrah the mortality was twice as great as in the preceding year. The year 1874 may be taken as the last year of the epidemic in this Division; from all quarters reports came that the fever was less fatal and less prevalent than in previous years. In 1875 the same facts were observed again, and what fever there was wanted the virulence of the epidemic, and had all the characteristics of the ordinary seasonal malarious fever of the country.

149. It will thus be seen that the period during which the fever raged with the greatest virulence in the districts of the Burdwan Division was either shortly antecedent to, or just contemporaneous with, the census of 1872; and it may be said that its effects should have been much more visible in the returns of that census than in those of the census just taken. No doubt the decrease in the population during the nine years which preceded 1872 was much greater than that which has occurred during the nine years which have since elapsed; but unhappily no materials exist for ascertaining exactly what the mortality was during the years when the fever was most virulent, and all that can be done is to show what it has been since 1872 and to guess what it was before that date.

Burdwan.

150. In the Burdwan district the registers kept for the purpose show that between the middle of 1869 and the month of March 1876, when fever relief operations ceased, 4,073,039 persons were treated in the Government dispensaries for fever, and the *recorded* deaths from the same cause were 78,970 in number, or 11,281 per annum, thus giving an averange annual death-rate of only 7·84 per *mille*. Such a result in a district where it was notorious that fever was frightfully virulent, and where the carefully obtained statistics of individual villages show a death-rate of from 30 to 70 per cent, is obviously ridiculous. Writing in 1872

of the fever in the preceding year, Dr. Smith, then Civil Surgeon of Burdwan, whose great experience not only of the fever in Burdwan, but of the same fever when it was raging in the Presidency Division, gives great weight to his opinions, after reporting that the recorded deaths in 1871 were 15,899, adds—"But I am perfectly certain that this number does not represent an eighth of the actual mortality;" and the Sanitary Commissioner, discussing the recorded death-rate from fever in 1872, viz. 12 per *mille*, states emphatically that the true death-rate was 70 or 80 per *mille*. In the following year (1872) the recorded fever deaths were 25,005, and in 1873 they were 20,799. Thus even if Dr. Elliott's estimate be much reduced and the actual deaths be taken at six times the number of the recorded deaths, we have 308,515 deaths in three years, or, roughly speaking, 100,000 deaths per annum. The fever remained in the Burdwan district for twelve years, and probably carried off in that time not less than *three-quarters of a million of persons*. Similar figures can be obtained in another way. At the census of 1872 the Burdwan district had a population of 550 to the square mile, or 1,483,850 persons in all. In the same year Dr. Elliott estimated that before the epidemic the density of the population was not less than 750 per square mile. If this estimate be correct, then the population in 1863 was 2,022,750, and the decrease during those nine years was 538,900. The mortality, however, was probably greater than this; for if the normal increase of ten per cent in nine years be added to the figures for 1863, the population in 1872 should but for the epidemic have been 2,225,025 instead of 1,483,850. The difference, viz. 741,175, represents the mortality during those nine years, chiefly from fever, and gives a percentage of decrease of 42·21 on the mean population of the period, an average annual mortality of 82,646 persons, and an average annual death-rate of nearly 47 per *mille* throughout the nine years. Lastly, the Sanitary Commissioner, in his report for 1873 (part II, page 61), shows that the deaths in Burdwan alone could not have been less than half a million, and adds that he is sure that this estimate understates the mortality.

Other districts of the Division.

151. For the other districts of the Division equally detailed estimates are unfortunately not available; but it may safely be said that Hooghly suffered nearly as much as Burdwan, that Midnapore and Beerbhoom followed next in order to these districts, that Howrah did not suffer so much, and that the mortality in Bankoora was little more than normal. On the whole it may fairly be assumed that in the twelve years during which the epidemic fever prevailed in this Division it slew more than two millions of people in something like the following proportion for each district:—

Burdwan	700,000
Bankoora	20,000
Beerbhoom	350,000
Midnapore	250,000
Hooghly	650,000
Howrah	50,000
	2,020,000

These figures are given as approximate only, for it is not to be forgotten that since the census of 1872 the boundaries of every district in this Division have undergone changes, which, as the following figures will show, have in every case except that of Midnapore been so important as completely to change the shape and size of the district:—

	Area in 1872.	Area in 1881.
Burdwan	3,523	2,697
Bankoora	1,346	2,621
Beerbhoom	1,344	1,756
Midnapore	5,082	5,082
Hooghly	1,424	1,223
Howrah		476

It is therefore impossible to state in exact terms either what the reported or the real number of deaths was, but the figures already given have been estimated from a consideration of the death-rates per *mille* annually reported to the Sanitary Commissioner, and of the increase and decrease of the population as shown in the census return for each thannah.

152. For further details of decrease in each district and thannah reference must be made to Table XXIII in Appendix C, where the facts speak eloquently for themselves. In Burdwan the population has decreased in 12 thannahs and advanced in 5 only, so that the district shows a net falling off of 6·20 per cent. Beerbhoom shows a worse state of affairs, and Hooghly is the worst of all. In the former district only one thannah, that of Nalhati, shows an increase of population since 1872, and some of the thannahs suffer to the extent of a decrease of 18 and 14 per cent. In Hooghly only two thannahs out of thirteen have advanced in population, and the falling off in the others has been so great that the average decrease over the whole district is 12·42 per cent.

153. In Bankoorah two thannahs of the Bishenpore subdivision, which in 1872 formed part of the Burdwan district, have suffered severely, but the healthier and loftier laterite country has escaped. In Midnapore the northern and eastern thannahs lost heavily, but the remainder of the district lying beyond the reach of the fever has escaped. Howrah also was for the most part outside the track of the fever; and although some of its thannahs were at one time in the decade ravaged by fever, it shows an increase of 6·63 per cent, which is most prominent in the mofussil thannahs of Ulubaria and Amta.

Birth and death-rates for Bengal.

154. It is impossible to leave the question of the increase and decrease of the population without endeavouring to deduce from the figures returned some estimate of the birth and death-rates prevailing in these provinces, both for the whole population and for different sections of it. To enable these estimates to be presented with perfect accuracy, there should be available, in addition to the figures for the census of 1872 and those of that last taken, complete registers of the births during the intervening period, and of the deaths, showing further, in the case of the latter, the ages at death if any attempt is to be made to calculate the death-rates at each period of life. By these means alone can the contending influences of emigration and immigration be gauged, the true natural increment discovered, and oscillations in the mortality and reproductiveness of the people from year to year detected. Unhappily, as will be further explained below, these sources of information are not in existence in Bengal, for not only has the present system of birth and death registration been in operation for a comparatively short period, but its results have hitherto not been such as to deserve the confidence of the public.

Value of vital statistics in India.

155. In his report for the year 1878 the Sanitary Commissioner to the Government of India discussed the progress made in birth and death registration since the systems had first been introduced into India, and, dealing first with death statistics, he examined the question how far the returned mortality in the different provinces represented the actual mortality for the year. The Sanitary Commissioner's conclusion was that from the nature of things there could be no standard of mortality for any year for the whole of India. "In European countries," he writes, "the annual average death-rate is a pretty constant quantity, which presents but little fluctuation from year to year; but for India the case is very different. One year is healthy and the people suffer comparatively little, while another year is most unhealthy, and characterised by an unusual number of deaths. This fact, the general truth of which is familiar to all observers, is substantiated by the experience of troops and prisoners, and by the exact statistics which have been collected regarding them; and not only is there this marked difference between different years, but there is often a marked contrast between even neighbouring places in the same year. Epidemics not only come in one year and are absent in the next, but their incidence as regards locality is most fickle. In the absence of a standard, and the impossibility of applying it even if one did exist, the figures must be judged by other tests."

156. These remarks, which refer to the vital statistics of the whole of India, lose much of their force when applied to the statistics of a single province. Great epidemics, or great natural calamities such as famine or flood, occur but seldom; and when they do come, if they are of so fatal or extensive a character as to affect to any considerable extent the mortuary statistics of the province, their occurrence is well known, and they supply an immediate explanation of the variation noticed in the figures of the year.

157. "The object of registration," to quote again from the Sanitary Commissioner's Report, "is to localise disease so that the causes which produce it may be sought out and if possible removed: to bring to the notice of the people any

excessive mortality occurring, so that they may be impressed with the necessity of bestirring themselves in sanitary reform." The case could not be more clearly stated: and even if mortuary statistics were available only once in the year, when the local Sanitary Commissioner's Report is published, the words quoted would demonstrate the necessity of having some such standard as a rough general guide to attract the attention of Government and of the people to the most afflicted parts of the country during the preceding year, and so to the causes which produced disease. But if mortuary statistics were available more frequently (as indeed they are in other provinces of the empire), together with a general standard of mortality, seasonal and local, disease might be checked instead of being regretted after its cessation, and many lives saved which are now lost before the necessity for help is realised.

158. To the formation of a thoroughly trustworthy standard of this kind accuracy in the record of statistics is essential. Were the actual facts of each year accurately recorded throughout the country, it would be possible to ascertain by a careful collection of the statistics of several years some general mean of mortality in ordinary times. The variations from year to year, or between one locality and another, could then be ascribed to definite causes, either obvious or discoverable upon enquiry, instead of being attributed, as they now necessarily must be, either in whole or in part to spasmodic strivings after better registration, and to the natural recoil which succeeds a forced advance.

The collection of vital statistics in Bengal.

159. The history of the collection of vital statistics in Bengal is the history of an unequal struggle maintained with insufficient means, and with not unfrequent changes of policy, by over-worked officials against the apathy or the open hostility of the masses. The complete organisation which in a temporarily-settled province spreads like a network over each district for the collection of the revenue and for the purposes of the general administration is wholly wanting throughout the greater part of Bengal, so that not only is the machinery for statistical enquiry almost entirely absent, but the people themselves, far from being familiar with the visits of the revenue official with his list of enquiries, regard all operations of this character at first as an innovation to be resented, and then as an irksome burden to be cast off as far as possible. In Orissa alone is there any such general fiscal organisation, and it is in this province only that vital statistics are as a whole fairly well collected: hence the result is that though there are other isolated cases where the energy of individual officers secures success, and though a distinct advance has been made since vital statistics were first collected, it cannot yet be said that the results are at all near the truth, and Bengal is far behind other provinces of the empire in the administration of this department.

160. The registration of deaths has been in operation in these provinces since the year 1870, and was inaugurated by the orders of Government in the preceding year. By those orders the village watchmen are compelled to report to the nearest police-station all deaths occurring within the limits of their village or beat, with a few simple particulars as to the age and sex of the deceased and the cause of death. The facts thus reported are entered in registers kept for the purpose, and the figures are periodically arranged and forwarded to the Magistrate or the Civil Surgeon of the district, who examines them and eventually submits them to the Sanitary Commissioner, by whom they are tabulated and exhibited with his criticisms and remarks in the report which he annually lays before Government on the health of the province during the preceding year. It will thus be seen that the foundation upon which the whole superstructure is built is the village watchman; and although it has been the unceasing object of Government for many years past to improve the status of these hard-worked and insufficiently paid officials, it cannot be said that the result has been sufficient to justify any increase of confidence being placed in the information furnished by them.

161. When the reports of the police are sent on to district head-quarters, they are subjected to scrutiny before transmission to the Sanitary Commissioner, and much stress has from time to time been laid upon the importance of checking them. Unfortunately, however, any real check is impracticable. For a criticism of the figures to be of any value it should be based upon an enquiry made on the spot from the inhabitants of a number of villages taken at random, whose statements should then be compared with the reported figures. Few officers, however, have leisure for such enquiries, and

fewer still have the inclination to make them. On the other hand, it has been found that easy-chair examinations of district statistics, if followed by comments on the returns and instructions for future guidance, frequently give rise to a rapid improvement, which can be traced at once to false statistics intended to bring the district figures up to the assumed standard. Practically it amounts to this, that when the village figures have passed through the police to the Magistrate or Civil Surgeon, they are almost always unable to check them, because they have no leisure to do so in the proper way, and are afraid to do so from a distance, lest they should render the confusion worse and complicate error with falsification.

162. But though this weak and deficient organisation characterises the greater part of Bengal, there are certain places or portions of these provinces where a more complete system has been attempted. The general registration of vital statistics throughout the province is governed by Government orders issued in 1869; but by the fourth of the Acts passed by the Legislative Council of Bengal in 1873 power has been given to the Lieutenant-Governor to direct, by a notification published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, that all births and deaths, or all births or all deaths occurring within any specified area, shall be registered, and to appoint persons for the registration of these statistics. The same Act defines the persons on whom the duty of reporting births and deaths is compulsory, and prescribes a penalty for neglect. Under the provisions of this Act the registration of mortuary statistics is effected in almost all the municipalities or town areas in Bengal. There has also been an attempt made to collect improved statistics under what was known as the selected area system. Considering that the acquisition of accurate statistics over the enormous area of the Lower Provinces, with their vast population and uneducated agencies, was at present impossible, Sir George Campbell in 1872 determined to endeavour to perfect the system on a smaller scale over certain experimental selected areas, chosen with reference to geographical situation, so as to be accessible and easily supervised. The number of these selected areas was gradually increased year by year, until it amounted in 1876 to 195 in all with a population of $2\frac{3}{4}$ millions. Of these areas 119 were urban, to most of which the provisions of Act IV applied, and 76 were rural. To the latter it was deemed inexpedient to extend the Act for the present. The statistics from these areas showed results which compared very satisfactorily with those obtained from other parts of India. In 1877, however, this system was abandoned, and the only places in Bengal from which statistics more accurate than the average can now be obtained are the town areas, to which the provisions of Act IV of 1873 have been extended.

163. The figures in the marginal table show the results of death registration throughout Bengal during the eleven years which elapsed between 1871 and 1881. This table shows how extremely backward death registration in Bengal still is. It shows also that the advance in general registration ceased simultaneously with the abolition of the system of selected areas which took place in 1877; and this cessation is the more remarkable because in the Resolution upon the Report of the Sanitary Commissioner in Bengal for 1876 it was demonstrated by Government that the advance in general registration which had taken place since selected areas had been introduced was due, not to better registration in those areas, inasmuch as the death-rate in them, though admittedly much below the truth, had remained practically the same for four years, but to a general improvement in the registration of vital statistics in the general circles of Bengal. On the other hand, it should not be forgotten that in 1876 the area and population under the selected area system had been trebled, and the slight falling off of only $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in the death-rate for that year from so much larger an area was therefore a valuable tribute to the comparatively greater accuracy of registration in the selected area, while the actual extension of the area doubtless contributed materially to the

Death registration.

No. 5.—Statement showing the General Death-rate per Mille returned during the years 1871 *to* 1881.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Proportion of male deaths to 100 female deaths.
1871	4·80	3·10	4·00	147
1872	6·80	4·86	5·86	128
1873	9·01	6·51	7·75	138
1874	9·69	7·16	8·42	134
1875	... ...	.....	10·01	132
1876	18·43	14·35	16·40	127
1877	20·24	15·69	17·96	128
1878	20·00	15·47	17·73	129
1879	18·03	13·69	15·85	137
1880	17·28	13·54	15·40	127
1881	23·02	18·92	20·96	120
Average ...	14·73	11·82	12·75	131

advance of 6 per cent in the death-rate in the whole province. Taking the figures, however, as they stand, it appears that the average death-rate per mille in Bengal during a period of 11 years was only 12·75, and that during 1881, the last year entered in the table (which was a year of very great fever mortality), the rate rose to no more than 20·96 per mille. How far from the truth these figures are will appear from an examination of the conclusions to which they lead, and of the death-rates in other provinces of India, or in localities where vital statistics are carefully registered. At the same time an attempt will be made, by analysing these and other sources of information, to fix approximately a standard rate of births and deaths in the Lower Provinces of Bengal.

Recorded death-rate in Bengal and elsewhere.

164. According to the census of 1872 the population which in 1881 inhabited the area in Bengal in which mortuary statistics were collected was 59,878,847, but the estimated population of the same area, corrected according to the census of 1881, was 66,398,499. From among this population the number of deaths reported in 1881 was 1,255,478, which gives a death-rate of 18·90 per mille. In England the average death-rate calculated from the statistics of more than half a century is 22·5 per mille. There is every reason to believe that the true death-rate in India is very much higher than either of these. It is true that the natives of this country are not exposed to the cold and the privations which destroy so many lives in a northern climate. Their wants are fewer, and their vitality more easily maintained; but their physique is inferior, their power of resistance to disease less, and they are liable to fatal epidemics and to the other diseases of a semi-tropical climate, which carry off large numbers of persons of all ages: while their customs at the birth of children produce a rate of infant mortality which has no parallel in Europe.

165. Looking to the death-rates of other provinces in India, the figures given in the margin show that the returned death-rate in Bengal is, contrary to expectation, the lowest of all, and much lower than that in other provinces which enjoy similar climatic conditions. The period for which the figures are taken embraces in Bombay and Madras the years when a great part of those presidencies was devastated by famine; yet the general death-rates for the whole period are only 28·60 for Madras and 28·95 per mille for Bombay. These figures, therefore, are obviously below the truth, and may be neglected. On the other hand, the yearly figures of the Central Provinces, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Punjab, are subject to less violent derangement, and they have admittedly been collected with great care and increasing success. The mean annual death-rate of the four years under observation is 33·37 per mille in the Central Provinces, 30·25 per mille in the Punjab, and 32·52 per mille in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. Other things being equal, and special disturbing causes apart, it is fair to conclude that the Bengal death-rate cannot possibly be lower than that for the North-Western Provinces; and it is not unreasonable to assume that it is probably somewhat higher, owing to the insalubrious conditions which admittedly prevail among the rice swamps and jungle of the Lower Provinces.

No. 6.—Statement showing the Death-rates per Mille returned from the Different Provinces in India during the years 1877 *to* 1880.

Province.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	Mean of four years.
Bengal	17·96	17·73	15·85	15·40	16·78
Madras	53·2	27·8	18·9	15·7	28·60
Bombay	38·76	32·94	23·83	20·25	28·95
North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	19·67	35·62	44·81	29·99	32·52
Punjab	20·	36·	38·	27·03	30·25
Central Provinces ...	23·91	46·00	34·44	29·10	33·37
Mean of the Six Provinces.	28·91	32·68	29·31	22·91	28·40

Selected mortuary statistics.

166. A second test of the value of the mortuary statistics in Bengal and a means of discovering the probable death-rate may be found in an examination of the figures in localities in Bengal itself where registration is known to have been carefully carried out. It has been mentioned that the system of selected areas was abolished in the year 1877; but the system existed long enough to show that vital statistics were collected with greater accuracy and success in urban than in rural circles. That this is the true explanation of the higher death-rates ruling in towns admits of little doubt. The penal provisions of the law rendering registration compulsory were in force in the towns, but not in the rural areas. Moreover the registration of deaths in towns is a comparatively easy matter, for the distances to the reporting station are small, and the chances of detection, if deaths are not reported, are great. In the country these conditions are exactly reversed. To report a death from a rural circle the village watchman often has to

trudge many miles ; while the infrequent visits of the police, the obscurity of village life, and the rapidity with which the corpse is disposed of after death, all encourage the wilful or indolent concealment of casualties. There is no reason also to think that as a rule in India the death-rate in towns is much in excess of that which prevails in rural tracts. The vast difference which is observed in Europe in the conditions of life of an urban and rural population has little or no counterpart in India. With the exception of the metropolis and a few other large cities, there are no places in Bengal which can show such a violent contrast as the London court does to the Kentish cottage. Overcrowding has comparatively few victims, and the insanitary conditions amid which the average native lives are not much more accentuated when he dwells in a large town than when he inhabits his own country home. His food and dress are the same under either circumstances, and the only condition antagonistic to the equal probability of survival in towns is the risk of epidemic disease. Under these circumstances it may be said with confidence that the death-rate in towns does not greatly exceed that of the rural population. During the eight years which elapsed between 1872 and 1881 the urban population of Bengal (excluding the city of Calcutta and its suburbs) was reported to have died at the average rate of 29·80 per mille every year; the highest rate being 35·13 per mille in 1878, and the lowest 22·89 per mille in 1874, when mortuary registration was still in its infancy. This general rate is considerably lower than what might have been expected, and its inadequacy is demonstrated by the extraordinarily low proportion which female deaths bear to male deaths. This is indeed one of the two great errors by which vital statistics in India are always disfigured ; and how considerable it is, the following figures will show. In England at the census of 1871 the living males were in the proportion of 94·8 to every 100 living women, yet so much greater is male mortality in England than that of the other sex, that the English returns collected for nearly half a century show that 104 men die to every 100 women : so that for equal numbers living, the death-rate is 109 for males as against 100 for females. In Bengal the males are said to be in the proportion of 99 to every 100 women, and in the absence of the many special causes which in England render the life-time of males shorter than that of females, the death-rate of the two sexes in Bengal, with a population so nearly equal, should approach each other very closely. But in point of fact the registration of male deaths for the eight years under examination gives a mortality of nearly 130 males to every 100 females, and implies a deficiency of between 15 and 20 per cent in the registration of female deaths. If these omitted figures be added to the recorded death-rates for both sexes, and allowance be made for the number of infant deaths which certainly escape registration, as will be shown below, it appears that the town death-rate cannot be less than 36 or 37 per mille ; and taking these figures as a standard, it may be assumed that the true death-rate in rural circles is 31 or 32, giving an average mortality throughout the province of not less than 33 or 34 per mille. It may be added that these figures are supported by the results of private investigation. In the year 1874, under the influence, and at the suggestion of, Dr. Ghose, the Civil Surgeon of Rungpore, vital statistics were carefully collected by one of the landed gentry of the district in his estate, and these showed a death-rate of 31·2 in a population entirely rural. In the following year the same agency returned a death-rate of 31·91 per mille, the general correctness of the registration being proved by the fact that there was a difference of less than 2 per mille in the rates of male and female mortality, the former being 32·84 and the latter 30·92. In 1876 the mortality registered over the same area was 32·36 per mille, and it was equally divided between the sexes. In the following year the experiment was abandoned under the orders of Government.

Death-rate of the sexes.

167. Again, if the average life-term of the population of Bengal is calculated from the mortuary statistics returned, their inaccuracy will at once be apparent. The mean life-term of the English population, based on the statistics of 34 years, is 40·86 years. Common knowledge and the combined experience of all observers would tell us that life in India is shorter than in Europe ; and the present Census Commissioner for India, writing in 1873, calculated that the average duration of life in India was 30 years and eight months. Yet the figures quoted in paragraph 163 for the year 1881, which is the year for which the highest rate of mortality was registered, yield a mean duration of life in Bengal

Average life term of the people.

of 52·88 years. Mr. Plowden's average, if applied to Bengal, gives an annual death-rate of 33·33 per mille; while, on the other hand, if an annual death-rate of 33 per mille be assumed, then the mean duration of life becomes 30·30 years. In London the mean duration of life is over 40 years, though the more favoured classes have an average life-term of nearly 60 years: so that the mean duration of life in Bengal would seem to be little more than three-fourths of the English average.

Ages at death.

168. One more test which can be applied to the death statistics of Bengal is that of examining the reported ages of the dead. Nothing can be learned from a comparison of the ages at death of adults in Bengal with similar figures for England, because the ignorance which adult natives, almost without exception, betray with regard to their age deprives the Bengal returns of all value. But the ages at death of infants are less open to misstatement, and they repay analysis. An exact comparison of the English figures for infant deaths with those collected in these provinces is unfortunately not possible, because the age-periods selected in the two countries do not coincide. In England the periods chosen are (1) "under one year" and (2) "under five years." In Bengal, on the other hand, while the first selected period coincides with the English one, the second has of late for the most part been "under six years," that period being adopted from 1871 to 1873 inclusive, and again from 1878 to the present date. During the intervening four years the attempt to secure numerical accuracy was abandoned, and the classification adopted was the general one of infants or sucklings, children, adults, and the aged. English returns for 20 years show that out of every 1,000 persons of all ages who die annually 245 are infants under one year of age and 411 are children of less than five years old. In Bengal the figures for seven years quoted in the margin show that the mean reported mortality of infants under one year is only 90, and of children under six years 224. While, therefore, it is notorious that infant mortality in Bengal is far above that in Europe, the figures would show that infants in their first year have a chance of life three times better in Bengal than in England, and that for every 41 children who die in England before they are 5 years old only 22 die in Bengal during their first *six* years of life. During the years 1874 to 1877 the returns have a better appearance, but they have been excluded from the table because the period covered in each case was so much larger that it was impossible to bring them within the scope of the present comparison. The custom of the country which keeps children at the breast long after they have concluded the first year of their lives has beyond question largely swelled the number of children returned as "infants or sucklings," and, similarly, the very broad description of "children" embraces all those young persons who die before reaching maturity. Even with these augmentations, however, the mean rate for infant deaths during the four years excluded from comparison is only half the English rate for children of one year, and the death-rate for all non-adults is only two-thirds of that which obtains in England among children under five years of age.

Infant mortality.

No. 7.—Statement showing the Recorded Death-rate per Mille of Infant Mortality in Bengal from 1871 *to* 1881.

Year.	Under one year.	Under six years.	Remarks.
1871	55	158	* These are the figures for "Under five years" only.
1872	58	176	
1873	70	203	
1878	127	268	
1879	87	221	
1880	116	260	
1881	122	258	
Mean	90	224	
English Rate	245	411*	

Birth registration.

169. The collection of birth statistics is an experiment of later date than that of mortuary registration. A small commencement was made in the year 1873 upon the passing of Bengal Act No. IV of that year, but the Lieutenant-Governor, in reviewing the Sanitary Commissioner's report for 1873, was of opinion that "the statistics of births were too imperfectly registered even in the selected areas to make any review of them possible." During the following year, however, some slight progress was made, and the registration of births, which had hitherto been confined to the selected circles only, was in 1876 made general throughout Bengal. This extension of the experiment naturally caused a decrease in the rate returned, and in the year 1878 the registration of birth statistics was abandoned under the orders of Government, except in certain large municipalities and towns. The area over which the attempt was made differed, therefore, very considerably from year to year.

170. The table given in the margin shows that the average birth-rate over the area under observation was only 21·26 per mille. In Europe the birth-rate ranges from 30 to 33 per 1,000 of the population; and considering the difference in the domestic habits of European and Indian countries, it is impossible to avoid the conclusion that in the latter the birth-rate must be half as high again as it is in the former, and that therefore half the births in Bengal are not reported. In Europe large numbers of the population remain unmarried, still larger numbers marry comparatively late in life, and hardly any enter the married state till they have arrived at complete maturity. In Bengal, as is well known, the case is entirely different, the whole population marrying as a matter of course at the earliest opportunity, and a late marriage being almost as much a phenomenon as an unmarried man or woman. This combination of circumstances cannot fail to bring about a birth-rate which is vastly understated at 21·26 per mille; and this conclusion is further established by the proportion which the reported male births bear to the reported births of females. In England the experience of many years shows that 104 boys are born to every 100 girls, while in Bengal the proportion would appear to be 116 to 100. Some part of this great apparent excess is, no doubt, due to the fact which the researches of European physicians and statists have placed beyond controversy, viz. that the sex of the infant is largely determined by the comparative ages of its parents. The proportion of male to female births increases as the age of the husband preponderates over that of the wife; and inasmuch as in India the husband is in almost every case considerably older than the wife (much more so than in England), it is to be expected that the ratio of male to female births will always be greater in India than in England. But this explanation hardly suffices to account for all the difference found between the two rates, and much of it must be put down to the reticence which is characteristic of the natives of India in all matters relating to the females of their family, and to the unconcern, if not actual regret, with which the birth of a female child is regarded.

The recorded birth-rate in Bengal and elsewhere.

No. 8.—Statement showing the Birth-rate per Mille, and the Proportion of Male to Female Births reported in Bengal from 1874 *to* 1881.

Year.	Ratio of births per 1,000 of the population.	Number of male births to 100 female births.
1874	21 81	117
1875	24·07	119
1876	22·58	114
1877	18 20	118
1878	19·56	119
1879	16·93	118
1880	23·44	116
1881	23 51	114
Mean of seven years.	21·26	116

171. The considerations stated in the foregoing paragraphs will have explained that it is impossible to fix a standard rate either for births or deaths from the figures actually recorded from year to year, and that whatever conclusions are arrived at must be obtained by inference from other sources of information. Several of these have been discussed, and it only remains to investigate the material supplied by the census figures themselves for the years 1872 and 1881, supplemented by a small body of reliable statistics collected in Calcutta. In that city much attention has been paid to the subject of birth and death registration for many years. Its system of statistics was placed upon an entirely new footing in 1876 by the present Surgeon-General of Bengal, who was then Health Officer to the municipality, and the efforts which he made for the correct registration of statistics of this nature have been continued by his successors. Yet even after six years of steadily improving registration it is impossible to say that the births in Calcutta are all reported; and Mr. Beverley has shown that in point of fact at the census just taken the *surviving* children in Calcutta of one year of age exceeded in number the *whole of the reported births* in the preceding year. With death registration, however, the case is different. Mortuary registers are kept at all the burning grounds and burning ghâts, and the absolute necessity which exists in so large a town of disposing of a corpse in some legitimate way or other almost completely prevents the concealment or omission of deaths, and renders these registers a very sufficient record of the mortality within municipal limits. These registers record the sexes of the deceased and their ages at death; and though they are somewhat vitiated by the facts that Calcutta includes a large visitor population of

Fallaciousness of existing statistics.

temporary residents, and that a large number of persons taken ill in Calcutta leave the place for their homes and die elsewhere, yet the statistics of deaths and ages may be taken as almost absolutely correct for the residents, and very nearly correct for the whole population. More particularly is this the case with infants; for while, on the one hand, the shifting population of Calcutta consists for the most part of male adults, and contains very few nursing mothers or infants in arms, on the other hand children do not emigrate, and have small chances of flight in sickness: so that there can be little doubt that almost all of the infants whose deaths are recorded in Calcutta were born within the city. If this fact is borne in mind, it will afford good ground for confidence in the statistics for infant mortality in the metropolis, and in the conclusions based on those statistics.

Estimate of the birth-rate, annual increase, and death-rate.

172. The experience of six years' registration shows that out of every 1,000 infants born in Calcutta 488 die before they reach the age of 12 months. Terrible though this mortality is, it is not incredible when the circumstances are remembered which in India, and especially in a crowded town like Calcutta, surround the infant during its first few days of life. No doubt, as already stated, this death-rate is higher than that which obtains throughout the country generally, inasmuch as nature is assisted in resisting misguided obstetric science by the poverty and the primitive life of many of the rural population; but it is probably true that for all Bengal the mortality among children in the first year of their life is in the ratio of not less than 35 per cent, or 350 in 1,000 births. The total of surviving children under one year of age in 1881 was found to be 1,611,449, and, calculating the number of survivors as in the ratio of 65 to 35 deaths, the number of deaths in a given year of children less than a year old will be 975,395, and the total number of births, obtained by adding together the deaths and the survivors less than one year old will be 2,586,344. But from the arguments fully set forth in paragraph 260 below and elsewhere, it is clear that the number of children less than 12 months of age is *much* understated at 1,611,449, and it is far more likely that the number is 2,000,000. If that figure is accepted and the ratio of survivals to deaths be still maintained, the total number of births annually would be 3,076,923; and in the absence of more accurate and reliable statistics, it will not be incorrect to say that the number of births per annum is three millions.

173. In default of accurate figures showing the births and deaths for each year, and of any definite information regarding causes which may bring about a variation in the increase or decrease from year to year, the only course is to assume that the population increases in arithmetical progression, *i.e.* by equal numbers in equal times; and it is then clear that if the population of Bengal in 1872 be deducted from the population of the same province in 1881, and the difference be divided by the number of years that have intervened, the result will be the average annual increase, viz. 759,015. This is the annual rate of increase at all ages; and in the absence of data it must be assumed to be the rate of increase at every age. It has been assumed that the births are about 3,000,000 per annum, and if 759,015 is the annual increase, then the difference, or 2,240,985, must represent the average number of deaths per annum among the population of all ages. Having fixed these data, it is easy to ascertain the average annual death-rate and birth-rate, which is done by calculating the ratio they bear to the population living at the middle of the period of nine years between 1872 and 1881. The mean population of the period is 66,121,289, and the ratio which the births bear to that population is 45·37 per mille; while the death-rate for all ages is 33·89 per mille, giving an annual increase of 11·48 per mille, or 1·14 per cent.

Conclusion.

174. Further than this it seems unnecessary to go. Were it possible to feel any confidence in the accuracy of the vital statistics sent up from each district and Division year by year, it would be interesting to pursue the question still further, and endeavour to ascertain the birth and death-rate for each district and Division in the province. But although it is possible to fix with some pretentions to probability a standard of life and death for a whole province, where the errors of one district are corrected by those of the next, the attempt fails signally if a much smaller unit is taken. In Burdwan in the year 1871, when the epidemic fever was raging and the resources of the Government were strained to the uttermost to combat its ravages, the recorded death-rate per mille was only 7·8. In Mymensingh in the same year the death-rate was 1 per mille, and the average

duration of life was 1,000 years; yet every person whose death was reported was returned as less than 30 years of age. On the other hand, the Sanitary Commissioner reported in 1881, without apparent surprise, that the death-rate in the Meherpore thannah of the Nuddea district, which had been 34·51 per mille in 1879, had risen to 157·88 per mille in 1880. Nor do the birth and death statistics of special classes of the population afford a much more profitable field of enquiry. The vital statistics of such small places as cantonments and jails are kept with accuracy, and may be accepted, as far as they go, as trustworthy evidence of the health of the very special section of the community to which they relate. It has been shown that the sexes of the new born and of the dead are erroneously reported, and that the ages at death are frequently misstated; and a similar statement must be made as to the religion and nationality of the infants and the dead in each year. Judging from the published figures, it would seem that Christians are the most prolific and the most long-lived class of the population, and that the Buddhists have the shortest average life-time. But the figures are admittedly unreliable, and speculation is thrown away upon them. In conclusion, it can only be said broadly that the registration of vital statistics is still extremely deficient, especially as regards the registration of female deaths, the births of female infants, and the ages at death. But from the rates obtained in other provinces, and in those towns and places in Bengal where exceptional efforts have been made to secure accuracy, and from a consideration of the figures returned at either census, it would appear that the birth-rate in Bengal is not less than 45 per mille, and the death-rate about 34 per mille, showing an annual net increase of about three-quarters of a million souls, or 1·14 per cent. At this rate the population of Bengal in 1891 will be 77,127,011, of whom 38,274,721 will be males and 38,852,290 females.

CHAPTER VI.

STATISTICS OF RELIGIOUS BELIEF.

(Tables Nos. III, III(a), III(b), and IV, pages 17 to 52 of Appendix B, and Table XXIV, pages 687 to 740 of Appendix C.)

Introductory.

175. These tables show the distribution of the population of Bengal by religion, and set forth the proportion which the followers of each religion bear to the whole population. In the first four of these statements details are given for no smaller unit than that of the district, but in Table No. XXIV similar details of religious belief are given for every thannah in the province.

176. The religions which have been considered worthy of separate exhibition, either on account of the number of their followers in Bengal or of their importance in other provinces, are fourteen in number, viz. Hindus, Sikhs, Mahomedans, Christians, Buddhists, Brahmos, Jains, Jews, Parsees, Sonthals, Kols, Other Western Aborigines, Eastern Aborigines, and lastly All Others. At the census of 1872 the population was divided into five categories only, viz. Hindus, Mahomedans, Christians, Buddhists, and All Others. At the later census our efforts have been more ambitious, and the number of separate religions for which figures are given has been nearly trebled.

177. Concerning some of these faiths there could be no doubt: they stand distinctly apart, their creeds are capable of definite formulation, and their followers are an acknowledged people and an appreciable body in the commonwealth. The Sikhs and Mahomedans, the Jews and the Parsees, have an individuality which it is impossible to mistake; the Christians profess a faith which separates them from all other classes of the community; and the Buddhists and Jains, though they have been said to possess much in common, differ from each other, and from the people who surround them, in dogma, ritual, and manners. Here, however, tangible definitions cease, and the remaining religions shade into each other by such imperceptible gradations, and are separated by such impalpable partitions, that it is impossible to say where one ends and the other commences: so that the border land between each one and the next is a misty valley, now widening and now narrowing, but always thick with the exhalations of ignorance and the fogs of doubt.

Difficulty of defining Hinduism.

178. "What is a Hindu?" asked Mr. Beverley in his report on the census of 1872, and the question has often been asked before and since without eliciting any satisfactory reply. No answer, in fact, exists; for the term in its modern acceptation denotes neither a creed nor a race, neither a church nor a people, but is a general expression devoid of precision, and embracing alike the most punctilious disciple of pure Vedantism, the Agnostic youth who is the product of Western education, and the semi-barbarous hillman, who eats without scruple anything that he can procure and is as ignorant of the Hindu theology as the stone which he worships in times of danger or sickness. Writing of the same subject, the most polished author whom India has given to the present generation—the present Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces—has described the present state of Hinduism in India in words which should be learnt by heart by all who wish to understand the religious position here. For Sir Alfred Lyall describes the religion of the non-Mahomedan population of India "as a tangled jungle of disorderly superstitions, ghosts and demons, demi-gods and deified saints; household gods, tribal gods, local gods, universal gods, with their countless shrines and temples, and the din of their discordant rites; deities who abhor a fly's death, those who still delight in human victims, and those who would not either sacrifice or make offering—a religious chaos throughout a vast region never subdued or levelled (like all Western Asia) by Mahomedan or Christian monotheism." So, too, Mr. Beverley, whose remarks in 1872 were so much to the point, and apply so exactly to the

difficulties which arose in the census just taken, that no apology is needed for reproducing them here:—

"It is difficult to say, however, where the line should be drawn which is to separate the pure Hindu from the low castes which have adopted some or other form of Hinduism. The problem can only be satisfactorily solved by a clear definition of what we mean by Hinduism, and no one has ventured as yet to lay down any such definition. It was only the other day that we were reminded by high authority that Hindus are only heathen, little differing from the aboriginal tribes who worship stocks and stones. What, then, is to be the test of faith which is to distinguish the real Hindu from the semi-Hinduised aboriginal? Which of the gods in the Hindu pantheon shall be made to step down and decide between them? Shall a belief in Krishna or in Doorga constitute a pure Hindu? Or shall those only be classed as Hindus from whose hands a Brahman will receive water? Shall the disposal of the dead be made the test, and the various castes be distributed according as they practise cremation or burial? Or shall some form of creed be extracted from the Shasters which we may make those subscribe who are henceforth to enjoy the dignity of being styled Hindus. Some practical shibboleth of the kind is required, it is clear. Without some such test no two men will agree in the classification of the numerous aboriginal tribes and castes in India who profess Hinduism in some or other of its multifarious forms.

No definition of Hinduism.

"This difficulty of classification is one of peculiar force in Lower Bengal. Here we have a great variety of aboriginal or semi-aboriginal tribes who have been brought into contact with the Aryan Hindus and have been partially civilised by them. Living for centuries side by side, the two communities have acted and reacted on each other. On the one hand, the savage tribes have renounced their barbarism and adopted many of the rites and customs of the invaders; on the other, the Hindu religion has itself been debased from the Vedic monotheism of the Middle-land. Those who have made the subject their study tell us that the Hinduism of the present day is as unlike the Hinduism of the Vedas as we may suppose the modern Bengali ryot is unlike his Aryan prototype. The ring of the true metal is wanting. The coin has been adulterated and debased. And the cause of this, they go on to say, is due to contamination from aboriginal sources. Hinduism has been lowered from its purer type in order to meet the necessities of the indigenous tribes among whom it made its home. Its pantheon has been crowded with elephant gods and bloodthirsty goddesses, of whom the first Aryans knew nothing, but who have been adopted into the Hindu system to win the goodwill and reconcile the superstitions of a wild and devil-worshipping race. And just as we find in the present day tribes in every stage of civilisation, so does the Hindu religion in Bengal assume a Protean form, from the austere rites practised by the shaven pundits of Nuddea to the idol-worship of the semi-barbarous Boona. The Bauris, Bagdis, and Chandals of the lower delta; the Kochs and Poliyas of Dinagepore and Rungpore; the Dosadhs and Musahars of Behar, with many others, are probably all of aboriginal extraction, but have adopted as their religion a form of Hinduism, and can scarcely be classed as other than Hindus. In classifying the people according to race and nationality, an attempt has been made to group such semi-aboriginal tribes together, and to distinguish them from those of purer Hindu or Aryan blood. But in regard to religion it seems to me that unless a test of belief is prescribed and a line of demarcation laid down by authority, it is impossible to adopt a classification which will meet with universal acceptance."

Large number of semi-Hinduised aboriginals in Bengal.

Many aboriginals returned as Hindus.

179. The difficulty which Mr. Beverley found in 1872 in separating Hindus from Others repeated itself in 1881. Had Table III and the other tables which give details for religions allowed any discretion to those officers whose duty it was to compile the census figures, it might have been possible, by a process of careful sifting, to separate those who were really Hindus by religion and Aryans by origin from those who have assumed the style of Hindus with little or no claim to it; but the necessity of making *religion*, and not *nationality*, the criterion in this table, left no course open but that of following implicitly the entries made in the schedules. To have allowed any discretion to the compiling clerks was out of the question, and accordingly from the very outset the most stringent orders were issued—and it is believed that they were well carried out—that each person should be shown in the census tables as of the religion to which he was described as belonging in the enumerator's schedules. The result has no doubt been that the number of so-called Hindus has been somewhat overstated at the expense of persons following aboriginal and non-Hindu systems of religion, and Tables VIII and XXVI (Hindu castes) contain entries which at first sight appear incompatible with Hinduism. Yet the error is in all probability not numerically large, and it may be accepted as a fault on the right side, because those persons who have entered themselves as Hindus, while their caste names reveal their aboriginal origin, bear in fact a much closer affinity in manners and habits of life to the Hindus, whose name and religion they have assumed, than to the people of aboriginal faith and non-Aryan origin to which they ethnologically belong.

180. Taking the figures as they stand, however, it will be seen from Tables III and IV in Appendix B that out of the whole population of Bengal the Hindus number 45,452,806 or 65·36 per cent, the Mahomedans 21,704,724 or 31·21 per cent, the Christians 128,153 or ·18 per cent, the Buddhists 155,809 or ·22 per cent, while all the other religions found in the schedules are professed by 2,095,369 followers, who are for the most part of aboriginal faiths and compose the remaining 3·01 per cent of the total: that is to say, that out of every 1,000 persons of all religions in these provinces 966 are either Hindus or Mahomedans, the former being in the proportion of rather more than two to each one of the latter, and among the remaining 34, there are 2 Buddhists, 1 Christian, and 29 of the different aboriginal religions, the unit not accounted for being composed of the followers of the other religions detailed in the enumerator's books. The meaning of these figures, and of the remarks which follow with regard to the distribution of religions, will be made clearer by a reference to the coloured diagram No. 1 which will be found in Appendix A. In this diagram the principal religions are distinguished by different colours, and the percentage which the followers of each of them bear to the total population of each district in Bengal is shown by the extent to which the colour extends along a scale graduated in one hundred degrees. The diagram illustrates Table No. IV, and exhibits graphically the result which that table gives in the form of a figured statement.

Religious composition of the population in 1881.

181. In 1872 details for religion were not available for all the districts in Bengal, and the total population of the census of that year for which full information is available is therefore no more than 62,725,545. Among this number the proportions of the different religions were very much the same as they have been found to be at the census just past, for the Hindus were 39,996,575 or 63·76 per cent, the Mahomedans 19,559,252 or 31·19 per cent, the Christians 91,063 or ·14 per cent, the Buddhists 80,607 or ·12 per cent, and the class of All Others, which included the aboriginals, 2,339,541 or 3·72 per cent. These proportions are shown in greater detail in the following table, which gives for each district in Bengal the proportions which the principal religions bore to the whole population at the two censuses, and the fluctuation, whether of increase or decrease, which has taken place in these proportions during the intervening nine years.

Religious composition of the population in 1872.

No. 9.—Statement showing for each District the Proportion of the Population of each Religion in 1872 *and* 1881.

Districts.	Hindus.			Mahomedans.			Christians.			Buddhists.			All Others.		
	1872.	1881.	Difference + or —.	1872.	1881.	Difference + or —.	1872.	1881.	Difference + or —.	1872.	1881.	Difference + or —.	1872.	1881.	Difference + or —.
Burdwan	80·31	80·51	+ ·20	19·18	18·95	— ·23	·05	·06	+ ·01	.....	.....	.....	·43	·46	+ ·3
Bankoorah	89·54	87·43	— 2·11	4·30	4·44	+ ·14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6·13	8·11	+ 1·98
Beerbhoom	79·78	77·70	— 2·08	18·29	20·47	+ 2·18	·04	.....	— ·04	.....	.....	.....	1·87	1·81	— ·06
Midnapore	89·89	88·78	— 1·11	6·17	6·51	+ ·34	·02	·02	.....	.....	.....	.....	3·89	4·66	+ ·77
Hooghly	80·80	81·25	.....	19·01	18·64	.....	·14	·06	.....	.....	·02	.....	·03	.....	.....
Howrah		78·82	.....		20·79	.....		·32	.....		.....	.....		·04	.....
Total, Burdwan Division ...	84·75	83·96	— ·79	12·79	12·95	+ ·16	·06	·06	.....	.....	.....	.....	2·38	3·01	+ ·63
24-Pergunnahs	62·62	61·98	— ·64	36·67	37·36	+ ·69	·63	·61	— ·02	.....	·01	+ ·01	·05	·02	— ·03
Suburbs	59·00	59·62	+ ·62	39·28	38·41	— ·87	1·54	1·60	+ ·06	.....	·05	+ ·05	·16	·29	+ ·13
Calcutta	65·05	64·34	— ·71	29·74	28·72	— 1·02	4·77	6·10	+ 1·33	·19	·36	+ ·17	·23	·46	+ ·23
Nuddea	45·29	42·85	— 2·44	54·28	56·82	+ 2·54	·32	·31	— ·01	.....	.....	.....	·09	.....	— ·09
Jessore	41·76	40·03	— 1·73	57·79	59·93	+ 2·14	·02	·03	+ ·01	.....	.....	.....	·39	.....	— ·39
Khulna	48·40	48·48	+ ·08	51·46	51·44	— ·02	·05	·06	+ ·01	.....	.....	.....	·07	.....	— ·07
Moorshedabad	53·25	51·74	— 1·51	46·10	48·08	+ 1·98	·03	·03	.....	.....	.....	.....	·60	·12	— ·48
Total, Presidency Division...	51·30	49·80	— 1·50	47·90	49·52	+ 1·62	·54	·59	+ ·05	·01	·02	+ ·01	·23	·05	— ·18
Dinagepore	46·75	47·32	+ ·57	52·81	52·55	— ·26	·01	·03	+ ·02	·01	.....	— ·01	·39	·09	— ·30
Rajshahye	21·88	21·57	— ·31	77·66	78·41	+ ·75	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	·43	.....	— ·43
Rungpore	39·92	38·92	— 1·00	60·01	60·99	+ ·98	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	·05	·08	+ ·03
Bogra	18·94	19·18	+ ·24	80·73	80·80	+ ·07	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	·31	.....	— ·31
Pubna	29·82	27·55	— 2·27	69·92	72·41	+ 2·49	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	·24	·01	— ·23
Darjeeling	73·72	81·65	+ 7·93	6·59	5·28	— 1·31	·58	·54	— ·04	1·44	12·09	+10·65	17·64	·41	—17·23
Julpigoree	43·56	63·25	+19·69	34·62	35·85	+ 1·23	.....	.....	.....	.....	·08	+ ·08	·13	·77	+ ·64
Total, Rajshahye Division...	35·13	36·44	+ 1·31	63·12	63·16	+ ·04	·01	·02	+ ·01	·02	·24	+ ·22	·47	·10	— ·37
Dacca	42·83	40·47	— 2·36	56·67	59·09	+ 2·42	·42	·41	— ·01	.....	.....	.....	·06	.....	— ·06
Furreedpore	41·82	40·07	— 1·75	57·84	59·75	+ 1·91	·13	·16	+ ·03	.....	.....	.....	·19	.....	— ·19
Backergunge	32·84	32·85	+ ·01	66·75	66·68	— ·07	·17	·19	+ ·02	.....	·25	+ ·25	·22	.....	— ·22
Mymensingh	34·78	32·35	— 2·43	64·69	66·79	+ 2·10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	·51	·85	+ ·34
Total, Dacca Division ...	37·66	35·88	— 1·78	61·89	63·57	+ 1·68	·17	·17	.....	.....	·05	+ ·05	·26	·30	+ ·04
Chitttagong	26·71	24·30	— 2·41	70·51	70·82	+ ·31	·09	·09	.....	2·67	4·77	+ 2·10	.....	.....	.....
Noakholly	26·77	25·76	— 1·01	73·14	74·15	+ 1·01	·06	·07	+ ·01	.....	·01	+ ·01	.....	.....	.....
Tipperah	35·23	33·63	— 1·60	64·75	66·32	+ 1·57	·01	·01	.....	.....	·02	+ ·02	.....	.....	.....
Chittagong Hill Tracts... ...	·85	19·96	+19·11	1·97	7·17	+ 5·20	·04	·04	.....	68·77	72·80	+ 4·03	28·33	.....	—28·33
Total, Chittagong Division ...	29·68	28·48	— 1·20	67·41	67·86	+ ·45	·05	·05	.....	2·26	3·59	+ 1·33	·57	.....	— ·57
Total for Bengal Proper	50·03	48·45	— 1·58	48·45	50·16	+ 1·71	·18	·20	+ ·02	·23	·43	+ ·20	·81	·73	— ·8

No. 9.—Statement showing for each District the Proportion of the Population of each Religion in 1872 *and* 1881—concluded

Districts.	Hindus.			Mahomedans.			Christians.			Buddhists.			All Others.		
	1872.	1881.	Difference + or —.	1872.	1881.	Difference + or —.	1872.	1881.	Difference + or —.	1872.	1881.	Difference + or —.	1872.	1881.	Difference + or —.
Patna	87·41	87·71	+·30	12·37	12·13	—·24	·17	·14	—·03	.....	.....	.....	·04	.....	—·04
Gya	88·72	89·02	—·30	11·25	10·97	—·28	·01	.....	—·01	.....	.....	.....	·03	.....	—·03
Shahabad	92·26	92·51	+·25	7·69	7·46	—·23	·02	·01	—·01	.....	.....	.....	·01	.....	—·01
Mozufferpore	87·91	87·73	.....	12·05	12·25	.....	·01	·01	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Durbhunga		88·24	.....		11·73	.....		·01	.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sarun	88·28	88·18	—·10	11·70	11·80	+·10	·01	·01	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chumparun	86·08	85·79	—·29	13·82	14·09	+·27	·09	·11	+·2	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...
Total, Patna Division ...	88·40	88·47	+·07	11·54	11·48	—·06	·04	·03	—·01	.....	.....	.....	·01	...	—·01
Monghyr	89·00	90·06	+1·06	10·04	9·51	—·53	·06	·05	—·01	.....	.....	.....	·88	·36	—·52
Bhaugulpore	89·79	89·73	—·06	9·28	9·43	+·15	·02	·02	.....	.....	.....	.....	·89	·80	—·09
Purneah	59·59	58·23	—1·36	40·24	42·71	+1·47	·02	·01	—·01	.....	.....	.....	·13	·03	—·10
Maldah	52·67	53·35	+·68	45·96	46·38	+·42	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1·35	·24	—1·11
Sonthal Pergunnahs	51·63	54·05	+2·42	6·33	6·94	+·61	·03	·19	+·16	.....	.....	.....	41·99	38·79	—3·20
Total, Bhagulpore Division...	74·45	72·44	—2·01	19·65	19·62	—·03	·03	·06	+·03	.....	.....	.....	7·85	7·85	.....
Total for Behar ...	82·70	82·88	+·18	14·43	14·32	—·11	·03	·04	+·01	.....	.....	.....	2·81	2·74	—·07
Cuttack	95·66	97·09	+1·43	2·67	2·71	+·04	·15	·13	—·02	.....	.....	.....	1·49	·05	—1·44
Pooree	96·09	98·33	+2·24	1·50	1·57	+·07	·07	·09	+·02	.....	.....	.....	2·32	.....	—2·32
Balasore	95·86	96·88	+1·02	2·45	2·51	+·06	·68	·08	—·60	.....	.....	.....	1·61	·51	—1·10
Angul	81·02	98·49	+17·47	·24	·26	+·02	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18·73	1·23	—17·50
Bank	94·18	99·50	+5·32	·50	·47	—·03	·02	·02	.....	.....	.....	.....	5·28	.....	—5·28
Total for Orissa ...	95·43	97·49	+2·06	2·24	2·29	+·05	·10	·10	.....	.....	.....	.....	2·21	·18	—2·03
Hazaribagh	83·95	83·71	—·24	9·37	9·60	+·23	·20	04	—6·1	.....	.....	.....	6·47	6·63	+·16
Lohardugga	59·97	53·99	—5·98	4·70	4·80	+·10	1·03	2·25	+1·22	.....	.....	...	34·28	38·94	+4·66
Singbhoom	46·65	98·68	+52·03	·46	·51	+·05	·26	·65	+·39	.....	.....	.....	52·60	·14	—52·46
Manbhoom	83·92	89·41	+5·49	3·88	4·29	+·41	·07	·05	—·02	.....	.....	.....	12·12	6·23	—5·89
Total for Chota Nagpore...	70·74	70·43	+8·69	5·20	5·47	+·27	·50	·95	+·45	.....	.....	.....	23·54	18 14	—5·40
Grand Total for the Province ...	64·50	64·84	+·34	32·31	32·23	—·9	·15	·19	+·04	·13	·23	+·10	2·74	2·50	—·24
Cooch Behar	.....	70·03	+70·93	.....	28·96	+28·96	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	·09	+·09
Hill Tipperah	.....	10·22	+10·22	.....	28·18	+28·18	.....	·11	+·11	.....	.....	...	.....	61·47	+61·47
Tributary States, Orissa ...	66·60	74·82	+8·22	·30	·38	+·08	·02	·03	+·01	.....	·03	+·02	33·06	24·72	—8·34
Ditto, Chota Nagpore	39·79	98·98	+59·19	·03	·06	+·04	.....	·01	+·01	.....	.....	.....	59·57	·33	—59·24
Total for Feudatory States	43·56	77·58	+34·02	·30	7·44	+7·14	·01	·02	+·01	.....	·01	+·01	30·56	14·92	—15·
Grand Total, including Feudatory States ...	63·76	5·36	+1·60	31·19	31·21	+·03	·14	·18	+·04	·12	·22	+·10	3·72	3·01	—·71

Variations since 1872.

182. There are now therefore in every 100 of the population nearly two more Hindus than there were in 1872: the proportion of Mahomedans is greater by two in 10,000; of Christians by four in 10,000; and of Buddhists by one in a thousand: while the class of All Others has lost sixty-one in a thousand. From the abstract in the margin it will be seen that the greatest actual increase has occurred among the Hindus, while by far the greatest proportionate advance upon the totals of 1872 is observed among the Buddhists; while the "All Others" have actually experienced a decline. This decrease, and a part of the increase in Hindus, have no doubt been caused by the entry of many persons as Hindus who at the previous census were classed as aboriginals, and therefore appeared under the heading of "All Others." The subject will be examined in greater detail below when the figures for each religion are discussed.

No. 10.—Statement showing the Numbers and Percentage of Increase in each Religion since 1872.

Religions.	Increase + or Decrease −.	
	Number.	Percentage.
Hindus	+5,456,231	+13·64
Mahomedans	+2,145,472	+10·96
Christians	+ 37,012	+40·71
Buddhists	+ 75,202	+93·29
All Others	−2,339,541	−10·43

Local distribution of Hindus.

183. As might have been expected, the distribution of Hindus is much more general than that of any other great religion. Excluding Hill Tipperah, where the population is almost entirely composed of hillmen, and sixteen districts where the Mahomedans are in excess, the Hindus nowhere number less than half the population, while the proportion rises in some districts as high as 99 per cent. Even in those districts where Mahomedans predominate, the proportion of Hindus falls below 20 per cent in two cases only. The most essentially Hindu portion of Bengal is the Orissa Division, in every district of which more than 9 out of every 10 persons is a Hindu. Orissa contains the sacred shrine of Jagannath and the innumerable temples which surround it; it is the great home of Vaishnavism; it marches on the south with the essentially Hindu districts of the Madras presidency, while in former days its isolated position, the natural defences of its mountains and rivers, and its stout yeomanry, enabled it to beat off the attacks of the Mahomedan invaders who subjugated the rest of Bengal. The Mussulman power never completely reduced Orissa; and though from time to time the Mahomedan rulers of Bengal sent expeditions into this sea-board province to collect revenue or its equivalent in plunder, no serious attempt was ever made to set up an established government or to permanently occupy the province.

184. Next to the districts of the Orissa Division Hindus are most numerous in those named in the margin, in all of which they number more than 80 per cent of the people. It will be observed that among the eighteen districts given every district of the Patna Division finds a place, while two out of the five districts of the neighbouring Division of Bhaugulpore are also included and stand fourth and fifth on the list. Behar has on the average 82·88 Hindus in every 100 of its population, while the Patna Division, with 88·47 per cent, stands second only to Orissa in the proportion which its Hindu population bears to the whole. Shahabad, which stands first with 92·51 per cent of Hindus, is the home of the Bengal Rajputs and their kindred caste, the Babhans, or "military Brahmins" of Buchanan and other writers. This district, with those of Monghyr and Bhaugulpore, though they were occupied by Mahomedan garrisons, and though Shahabad gave an emperor to Hindustan and a dynasty to the Mogul empire, were never subjected to Mussulman proselytism; nor do they contain any appreciable proportion of aboriginal tribes. The same may be said of the other Behar districts which maintain a sturdy and independent population, in which the superior castes of Hindus form a large part, and which neither wanted nor were likely to accept the advantages which Islam offers to its converts. Of the other districts which appear in the list, Manbhoom and Midnapore stand highest. Both these districts march with Orissa, and in the southern portions of each Uriyas are numerous: both lay out of the track of Mahomedan invasion, but it might have been

Tributary States, Chota Nagpore	98·98	Sarun	88·18
Singbhoom	98·68	Mozufferpore ...	87·73
Shahabad	92·51	Patna	87·71
Monghyr	90·06	Bankoorah	87·43
Bhaugulpore	89·73	Chumparun	85·79
Manbhoom	89·41	Hazaribagh	83·71
Gya	89·02	Darjeeling	81·65
Midnapore	88·78	Hooghly	81·25
Durbhunga	88·24	Burdwan	80·51

expected that in Manbhoom aboriginal faiths would have had more followers. That it is not so, is a sign that the hillmen are becoming more Hinduised, and that the plainsmen are pushing forward towards the hills. Possibly also the distinction between Hindus and those of aboriginal faiths has been less carefully maintained here than in other districts.

Fluctuations between number of Hindus and Aboriginals.

185. It has already been stated in paragraph 182 above that the apparent increase in the number of Hindus during the last nine years has been 5,456,231, or 13·64 per cent on the figures of 1872; and it has been suggested that the greater part of this advance is due to the entry of many persons in the census schedules as Hindus who at the census of 1872 were classed as aboriginals. That this is the true explanation seems clear from the following considerations. In the first place, as will be shown in Chapter VIII, the number of children under 10 years of age among the Hindus is not abnormally large, and therefore the reported increase among them is not natural and cannot be due simply to the excessive fecundity of this branch of the population. Secondly, the greater part of the increase is so extremely local that the theory of natural progress fails to explain it. The districts in which the difference is greatest are those of Julpigoree, the Chittagong Hill Tracts, Cooch Behar, Singbhoom, the Tributary States of Chota Nagpore and of Orissa, the Sonthal Pergunnahs, and Manbhoom; and a glance at the map will show that these are all outlying tracts, the fringe of Hinduism, and notoriously either containing in themselves a considerable aboriginal element or else abutting on territories which are the home of aboriginal and non-Aryan races. In the first three of the districts mentioned the figures for 1872 were incomplete, so that the comparison between them and the figures for 1881 is not a fair one, and these districts must be left out of consideration. In all the other districts the increase under the head of Hindus is almost exactly equivalent to the loss of those districts in Aboriginals. In 1872 the Hindus in Singbhoom amounted to 46·65 per cent of the population, while in 1881 they were 98·68 of the whole people—an advance which is equivalent to 52·03 per cent in their ratio to the whole population. On the other hand, the percentage of All Others was 52·60 in 1872, but had fallen by 1881 to ·14, which gives a decrease of 52·46 per cent, or almost exactly the proportion by which the Hindus gained. Similarly, in the Tributary States of Chota Nagpore in 1872 there were 39·79 Hindus and 59·57 All Others in 100 of the whole population: in 1881 the proportions were Hindus 98·98 and aboriginals ·33 per cent—that is to say, the proportion of Hindus was greater by 59·19 in every 100 of the population, while the proportion of aboriginals has fallen by 59·24 in 100. In the other districts named the fluctuations have not been so violent, for in Manbhoom the Hindus advanced by 5·49 per cent, while the aboriginals fell off by 5·89 per cent. In the Orissa Tributary States the proportion of Hindus in 100 rose from 66·60 to 74·82, giving an advance of 8·22, while during the same time the aboriginals, who had been 33·06 per cent, dropped to 24·72 per cent—a decrease of 8·34 per cent. Lastly, in the Sonthal Pergunnahs the ratio of Hindus was 2·42 per cent higher, and the proportion of aboriginals 3·20 per cent lower in 1881 than in 1872. In none of the settled and, so to speak, old established districts of these provinces is there anything like these variations. The proportions to the whole population which were borne by the Hindus in 1872 reappear almost exactly in the census figures of 1881, and with differences which, if they exceed 1 per cent, are commensurate with the general advance or retreat of the whole district population.

How Hinduism is recruited.

186. It has been said, even by those whose learning and research entitle their opinions to the greatest respect, that Hinduism is not a proselytising religion; that its zenith has been reached; and that it is incapable of further expansion save by the slow process of human reproduction. In the sense that Hinduism, unlike Christianity or Islam, is not a missionary religion, this statement is true. But the accomplished author of "Asiatic Studies" has long since shown that Hinduism is still capable of very large accretions, and the figures of the present census just quoted fully bear out his conclusions. They show that wherever aboriginal tribes are brought into friendly contact with Hinduism, they are gradually Hinduised. If the gross native worship of their sylvan deities is not altogether abandoned, the complacent Brahmins find them a place in the spacious heaven of the Hindu pantheon. They affect the manners and assume the style of their neighbours. For their princely houses a miraculous incident and a divine origin are found, and they arrogate the titles and imitate the

carriage of Rajput chieftains. Thus within the memory of men still living have been raised up Rajput families among the hills of Chota Nagpore and the uplands of Orissa, just as much as in the highlands of Central India or the forests of the Bombay presidency; and as civilisation spreads, as improved communication opens up the few remaining districts which are still undeveloped, so will the aboriginal tribes gradually lose their individuality, and, following in the path trodden by numberless peoples before them, swell the general crowd of Hindus, the ruling families claiming the privileges of the warrior caste, and the mass of the people losing themselves in the great company of low caste Hindus.

No sect details given for Hindus.

187. It will be noticed that while Tables IIIA and IIIB in the Appendix supply detailed information as to the sects of Christians and Mahomedans, no table is anywhere exhibited giving similar information for the Hindu population. It is true that the instructions which accompanied the census schedules directed the enumerators to record both the religion and sect of all persons, but the practical difficulties in the way of these instructions caused their subsequent withdrawal before the compilation of the figures had gone far, and details of sect among the Hindus are therefore nowhere given in this report. The fact is that any such details for Bengal would be perfectly worthless, whether regarded from a statistical, a religious, or a political point of view. The figures would have been inaccurate, because hardly any Hindus in Bengal know to what sect they belong; and in practice it was found that the information was entirely omitted in millions of cases. Secondly, no political or social importance whatever attaches in these provinces to these sectarian details, for it is seldom that, as in other parts of India, jarring sects break the peace of cities or rival preachers galvanise the country side; and when it has been stated that the Bengal Hindus are broadly divided into Sivaism and Vaishnavism, all that is needed has been said. Orissa is the chief seat of the latter sect, while the trident of Siva is most frequently seen in Behar.

Local distribution of the Mahomedans.

188. Two of the most important facts elicited by the census of 1872 were the large number of Mahomedans in Bengal and the capriciousness of their distribution through the province. Previous to the census of that year the Mussulman population had been very much underestimated, and the announcement that they numbered nearly twenty millions, or 31·19 per cent of the whole population, was received with surprise. Mr. Beverley pointed out that whereas it had been supposed that Mahomedans were most numerous in Behar, the statistics of the census showed that far from this being the case Behar did not contain much more than one-tenth of the whole Mussulman population, and that the vast majority of them, or seventeen and a half millions, were to be found in Lower Bengal, especially in the Dacca, Chittagong, and Rajshahye Divisions.

189. Nine years form but a short period in the history of a people, and it will be seen that what was true of the Mahomedans in 1872 is true of them in 1881. The diagram to which reference has already been made in paragraph 180 above will show that Mahomedans are still most plentiful in the Divisions just named; and the figures in the margin, showing the districts in which they were most numerous and the proportion which they bore to the whole population in 1872 and 1881, will corroborate the fact that no change has taken place during the past decade in the localisation of the Mahomedans in Bengal, and, but for the fact that one or two districts have changed places, the list of districts most largely Mahomedan is identical for 1872 and 1881. In nothing is the conservatism of India more marked than in the adherence of its people to ancient usages and their attachment to time-honoured localities: the Mahomedan youth of the Eastern delta still furnish the Bay of Bengal with boatmen and sailors, as they did when the Moguls had a dockyard and a naval arsenal at Dacca; and the vast numbers of Mahomedan agriculturists in the Rajshahye and Dacca Divisions, tilling the soil as their ancestors did before them, attest at once the wholesale conversion of an entire people and the complete absence of the emigrant spirit in them.

1872.		1881.	
Bogra	... 80·73	Bogra	... 80·80
Rajshahye	... 77 66	Rajshahye	... 78·41
Noakholly	... 73·14	Noakhally	... 74·15
Chittagong	... 70·51	Pubna	... 72 41
Pubna	... 69·92	Chittagong	... 70·82
Backergunge	... 66 75	Mymensingh	... 66 79
Tipperah	... 64·75	Backergunge	... 66·68
Mymensingh	... 64·69	Tipperah	... 66·32

190. The actual number of Mahomedans enumerated in Bengal at the census just taken was 21,704,724, or 31·21 per cent of the whole population. Of this number nearly 18 millions were found in Bengal proper and 3¼ millions, or almost the whole of the remainder, were returned from Behar; in Orissa they

are almost unrepresented, and neither in the Feudatory States nor in the Chota Nagpore Division do their numbers rise much above 200,000. In fifteen districts only do they supply as much as half the population, and only in those quoted in the preceding paragraph does this proportion rise to two-thirds, so that the Mahomedans are not only less widely diffused than the Hindus, but even in the districts where they abound they nowhere absorb so large a part of the population as the Hindus do in the districts which are most largely Hindu. The reasons why in these districts Mahomedans constitute so large a proportion of the population have been so fully explained in the report on the census of 1872 that the same ground need not be gone over again. Briefly stated the facts are these.—In Bogra, Rajshahye, and Pubna there was, at a time within historical memory, a wholesale conversion to Mahomedanism of the aboriginal or semi-Hinduised inhabitants of the country, suggested by the zeal, and supported by all the influence, of the Mahomedan Court at Gour, in the adjoining district of Maldah: Noakholly and Chittagong were long occupied by Mahomedan garrisons as outposts against the ravages of the piratical Mughs and Arakanese: Backergunge and the other districts of the Dacca Division owe their large Mahomedan population partly to the Mahomedan troops, which long guarded their southern boundaries against the pirates of the Sundarbuns, partly to the neighbourhood of the Mahomedan Viceroy at Dacca, and partly to some such wholesale conversion of the lower classes as took place in Bogra and Pubna.

Their progress.

191. The total number of Mahomedans in these provinces in 1872 was 19,559,252, or 31·19 per cent of the whole. At the census just taken their total was 28,704,724, or 31·21 per cent of all the inhabitants of Bengal: in other words, in every 10,000 of the whole population there are now only 2 more Mahomedans than there were in 1872. Their absolute increase is 2,145,472, which gives a rate of advance of 10·96 per cent in the nine years which have passed since the last census was taken. As the percentage of advance of the whole population during the same period was 10·89, and the advance among the non-Mahomedan population was 10·80 per cent, it is evident that no large body of converts can have been added to the church of Islam since 1872. That this remark is as true of the figures of each district almost without exception as it is of the whole province, the following table will show.

No. 11.—*Statement showing for each District the Numbers of Mahomedans in* 1872 *and in* 1881 *and the Percentage of their Increase or Decrease.*

1	2	3	4	5	6
District.	Numbers in 1872.	Numbers in 1881.	Increase + or decrease —.	Percentage of increase or decrease.	Percentage of increase or decrease of all other religions.
Burdwan	284,739	263,816	—20,923	—7·34	5·92
Bankoorah	41,729	46,274	+4,545	+10 89	7·40
Beerbhoom	156,176	162,621	+6,445	+4·12	7·58
Midnapore	157,257	164,003	+6,746	+4·28	·86
Hooghly	216,046	188,798	—27,248	—12·61	12·46
Howrah	117,313	132,118	+14,805	+12·62	5·16
Total, Burdwan Division ...	973,260	957,630	—15,630	—1·60	2·94
24-Pergunnahs	560,346	604,723	+44,377	+7·91	6 64
Suburbs	101,719	96,583	—5,136	—5·04	1·48
Calcutta	133,131	124,430	—8,701	—6·53	1·80
Nuddea	984,106	1,146,603	+162,497	+16·51	5·13
Jessore	838,962	915,297	+106,335	+12·67	3·16
Khulna	538,762	555,544	+16,782	+3·11	3·20
Moorshedabad	559,822	589,957	+30,135	+5·38	.....
Total, Presidency Division ...	3,716,848	4,063,137	+346,289	+9·31	2.45
Dinagepore	793,215	795,824	+2,609	+·32	1·38
Rajshahye	1,017,979	1,049,700	+31,721	+3·11	.....
Rungpore	1,292,551	1,279,605	—12,946	—1·00	4·90
Bogra	556,620	593,411	+36,791	+6·60	6·09
Pubna	847,227	949,908	+102,681	+12·11	.....
Darjeeling	6,248	8,204	+1,956	+31·30	66·14
Julpigoree	144,980	208,513	+63,533	+45·82	36·30
Total, Rajshahye Division ...	4,658,820	4,885,165	+226,345	+4·85	4 65

No. 11.—*Statement showing for each District the Numbers of Mahomedans in* 1872 *and in* 1881 *and the Percentage of their Increase or Decrease*—concluded.

1	2	3	4	5	6
District.	Numbers in 1872.	Numbers in 1881.	Increase + or decrease —.	Percentage of increase or decrease.	Percentage of increase or decrease of all other religions.
Dacca	1,050,131	1,250,687	+200,556	+19·09	7·82
Furreedpore	869,116	974,983	+105,867	+12·18	3·69
Backergunge	1,260,148	1,267,694	+7,546	+·59	·91
Mymensingh	,519,410	2,038,505	+519,095	+34·16	22·20
Total, Dacca Division ...	4,698,805	5,531,869	+833,064	+17.72	9·54
Chittagong	795,013	801,986	+6,973	+·87	.....
Noakhally	614,692	608,592	—6,100	—·99	5·98
Tipperah	912,150	1,007,740	+95,590	+10·47	3·04
Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	1,378	7,292	+5,914	+429·17	38·21
Total, Chittagong Division...	2,323,233	2,425,610	+102,377	+4·40	2·28
Total for Bengal Proper ...	16,370,966	17,863,411	+1,492,445	+9·11	1·90
Patna	192,988	213,141	+20,153	+10·44	5·63
Gya	219,139	233.098	+13,959	+6·36	9·42
Shahabad	132,671	146,732	+14,061	+10 59	14·25
Mozufferpore	279,193	316,308	+37,115	+13·29	15·23
Durbhunga	249,412	308,985	+59,573	+23·88	22·99
Sarun	241,590	269,142	+27,552	+11·40	10·37
Chumparun	199,237	242,687	+43,450	+21·80	19·11
Total, Patna Division ...	1,514,230	1,730,093	+215,863	+14·25	14·88
Monghyr	182,321	187,517	+5,196	+2·84	9·19
Bhaugulpore	169,374	185,533	+16,159	+9·54	7·56
Purneah	690,149	771,130	+80,981	+11·73	5·16
Maldah	310.890	329,525	+18,635	+5·99	4·20
Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	79,786	108,899	+29,113	+36 48	23·71
Total, Bhaugulpore Division ...	1,432,520	1,582,604	+150,084	+10·47	10·64
Total for Behar ...	2,946,750	3,312,697	+365,947	+12·41	13·45
Cuttack	40,013	47,259	+7,246	+18·10	16 23
Pooree	11,586	14,003	+2,417	+20·86	15·35
Balasore	18,878	23,804	+4,926	+26·09	22·64
Angul	189	275	+86	+45·50	29 98
Banki	249	270	+21	+8·43	15·15
Total for Orissa ...	70,915	85,611	+14,696	+20·72	17·90
Hazaribagh	72,338	106.097	+33,759	+46·66	43·00
Lohardugga	58,211	77,403	+19,192	+32·96	29·93
Singbhoom	1,485	2,329	+844	+56·83	42·54
Manbhoom	31,890	45,453	+13,563	+42·53	28·42
Total for Chota Nagpore ...	163,924	231,282	+67,358	+41·09	33·88
Grand Total for the Province	19,552,555	21,493,001	+1,940,446	+9·92	10·37
Cooch Behar	.....	174,539	+174,539	.....	.....
Hill Tipperah	.....	26.951	+26,951	.....	.....
Tributary States, Orissa ...	3,557	5.729	+2,172	+61·06	27·03
Ditto, Chota Nagpore	3,140	4,504	+1,364	+43·43	35·93
Total for Feudatory States...	6,697	211,723	+205,026	+3,061·46	18·88
Grand Total, including Feudatory States.	19,559,252	21,704,724	+2,145,472	+10·96	10·80

192. If we exclude the Chittagong Hill Tracts, for which the figures collected in 1872 are admittedly worthless, it will be seen that the districts which show the largest advance in their Mahomedan population are the Tributary States of Orissa (61·06), Singbhoom (56·83), Hazaribagh (46·66), Angul (45·50), Julpigoree (43·82), Tributary States of Chota Nagpore (43·43), Manbhoom (42·53), Sonthal Pergunnahs (36·48), Mymensing (34·16), Lohardugga (32·96), Darjeeling (31·30), and Balasore (26·09). A further scrutiny of the statement will show that in four of these districts, viz. the Tributary States of Orissa and Chota Nagpore, Singbhoom, Angul, and Darjeeling, the absolute increase has been small, and even the augmented total is insignificant; and in these districts it is probably due to casual immigration which has no significance. In Julpigoree the rate of increase of the non-Mussulman population is 36·30 per cent, so that the slightly greater advance of 43·82 among the Mahomedans is probably due, not to conversions, but to an excess of Mahomedans in the general immigration, which is one of the features in the history of that district during the past decade. For Hazaribagh and Lohardugga the causes of the increase in Mahomedans are evidently the same as those which have brought about the general advance of the whole district population of those districts, for the rates of increase of the different religions in each are nearly the same, Hazaribagh having an increase among Mahomedans of 46·66 per cent, and among non-Mahomedans of 43 per cent, and the proportions in Lohardugga being Mahomedans 32·96 per cent, Others 29·93 per cent. In the Sonthal Pergunnahs and in Balasore the advance in the number of Mahomedans is considerably above the general mean of increase, but even now the total number in each district is not large, and a reference to the table on page 75 will show that the ratio the Mahomedans bear to the whole population is only 6·94 per cent in the Sonthal Pergunnahs and 2·51 per cent in Balasore. No explanation need be offered for such petty figures. In Manbhoom and in Mymensingh, however, the rate of increase among Mahomedans is considerably higher than it is for other religions, and the absolute numbers added to the Mahomedan community are large: thus in Manbhoom the Mahomedans have increased by 13,563, which is equivalent to 42·53 per cent on the figures of 1872, whereas the advance in other religions is only 28·42 per cent: in Mymensing the advance is 519,095, which gives a rate of increase of 34·16 per cent, the non-Mahomedan population increasing during the same time at the rate of 22·20 per cent. only. In Mymensingh the increase is believed to be unreal, and it is probably due to the inclusion in the census there of many boatmen and labourers from other districts temporarily engaged in cutting and shipping the jute and rice crops. For Manbhoom no very satisfactory solution of the figures can be found.

Causes and locality of their increase.

193. Table IIIB gives details of Mahomedan sects. Those which have found a place in the table are Sunnis, Shiahs, and Wahabis. The separation of Islam into the great sects of Sunnis and Shiahs dates from about a century and a half after the death of Mahomet, the great doctrinal point of difference between them being that while the Shiahs reject the Sunnah, or collected body of traditions, which the Sunnis accept as having authority concurrent with, and supplementary to, the Koran, the Shiahs maintain that the sovereign *imamat*, or temporal and spiritual headship over the faithful, was by divine right vested in Ali and his descendants through Hossan and Hossein, the ill-fated grandsons of the Prophet—a doctrine which the Sunnis reject. The seat of the Shiah doctrines is Persia and Afghanistan, while the Sunni faith prevails in Turkey and India. In Bengal the proportion of Sunnis to Shiahs is nearly as 80 to 1, the actual numbers being 20,964,657 to 262,293 Shiahs. In no district does the number of Shiahs exceed ten thousand except in Rungpore (39,540), Dinagepore (26,448), Maldah (16,521), Moorshedabad (14,540), Durbhunga (10,294), and Hooghly 10,146. Even in these districts, however, the proportion which they bear to 100 of the whole Mahomedan population is very small, being as follows in each district:—Hooghly 5·37, Maldah 5·01, Durbhunga 3·33, Dinagepore 3·19, Rungpore 3·09, and Moorshedabad 2·46. The Hooghly Shiahs have doubtless been attracted by the great Mahomedan educational endowment in the town of Hooghly, while the Maldah Shiahs are descendants of old Mahomedan families dating from the time when the ruined city of Gour in this district was the capital of Bengal and the seat of a Mahomedan viceroy.

Mahomedan sects.

Shiahs and Sunnis.

Wahabis.

194. Only 2,144 persons have had the hardihood to return themselves as Wahabis, for since the prosecutions of this sect for treason felony in 1864 and subsequent years the open profession of Wahabyism has been somewhat out of favour. More than half of this number were found in Moorshedabad, and nearly all the remainder in Pubna. Patna, which was long the centre of the movement in Upper India, has only 27 confessors. It should be remarked, however, in this connection that many Wahabis do not adopt or admit that designation, but adopt some other periphrasis, so that it is certain that some of them are included among the Mahomedans of unspecified sect. The sect derives its name from Muhammed-ibn-Abdul Wahab, their founder, who arose about the beginning of last century in the province of Najd in Arabia. It represents a vigorous effort to rid Mahomedanism of all innovation, to clear it of the thick overgrowth of luxury, sensuality, and semi-idolatry, and to bring it back to the simple doctrines of the Koran and the example of Mohamet. But these Puritans of the Mahomedan world have had little success among the ignorant and apathetic Moslems of Bengal, and the proceedings of Government have still further discredited the sect. Their history is so well and so fully told in Dr. Hunter's "Indian Mussulmans" that no further account of them is needed here.

195. As many as 134,458 persons, or nearly 3 per cent. of the whole Mahomedan population, are returned as of no sect. In many of these cases the entry simply was "Mahomedan," with no information about the sect; but in perhaps a larger number of cases the want of information is due to a misunderstanding of what was required. At the census of 1872 the different families and tribes of Mahomedans, viz. Shiahs, Syads, Moguls, and Pathans, were recorded, and in very many instances at the census just taken it appears to have been understood that this information was required again in the place of the sect. Accordingly the family has very frequently been written down, and as this furnished no clue to the sect of the people no course remained but to enter them as of unspecified sect.

Ferazis.

196. No persons are returned as Ferazis, although provision was made in the instructions to enumerators for showing them if found. The explanation seems to be that this name is not one which members of the sect use when speaking of themselves, but is an entirely exotic epithet, and the Mahomedan of Eastern Bengal would no more call himself a Ferazi than a Puritan of the commonwealth would have called himself a Round-head. The birthplace of the sect is the Furreedpore district, where its founder—an honour which is disputed between one Haji Sharitulla and his more famous son Dudu Miyan—was a small landowner: thence the tenets of the sect spread throughout the delta of the Ganges and Brahmaputra and into the metropolitian districts of the 24-Pergunnahs and Nuddea. Like the Wahabis, the Ferazis insist on the unity of God and the uselessness of intercession by all saints, angels, and spirits. Like them also they claim the right of private interpretation of the Koran, and reject all glosses or commentaries by doctors, however learned. They preach the heinousness of infidelity and the all-importance of strictness in life and ritual. Practical considerations have induced them of late to abandon the doctrine of the divinely ordained obligation of religious war; but time was when the Ferazis of Eastern Bengal furnished a continuous stream of money and recruits to the rebel camp on our North-West Frontier. Personally the Ferazi is known by certain tricks of clothing and gesture, and by the ostentatious austerity of his demeanour. They are as a class intensely bigoted, turbulent, and litigious, and with a few exceptions they are as ignorant and as intolerant as fanatics have mostly been in the history of the world.

Christianity. Its great advance.

197. The progress made in the spread of Christianity during the last nine years is one of the most interesting facts brought out by the census just taken. In 1872 the number of persons returned as Christians was 91,063, while by 1881 this number had increased to 128,125, showing an advance of 37,012, or 40·71 per cent. This increase is apparently less than that of the Buddhists, who have advanced at the rate of 93·29 per cent during the last nine years; but in point of fact the proportionate increase in the number of Christians has been much greater than that of the followers of any other religion, for while the rise in the case of the Buddhists has been shown to be due rather to more accurate enumeration than to a real numerical increase, it is certain that, for obvious reasons, the

Christian community, both at the former and the recent census, were more accurately enumerated than any other section of the people: so that whatever increase or decrease is shown in their numbers may be accepted as having really occurred. This increase of 40·71 per cent is far too large to be explained by the theory of natural productiveness; and that it is due chiefly to conversions from heathendom, and not to immigration from Europe, is proved by the following statistics. In 1872 Mr. Beverley estimated that at least half of the 91,603 Christians, or (say) 46,000, were Europeans and Eurasians; in 1881 the number of non-Asiatic Christians was found to be 40,726, which would give a decrease in their numbers of 5,274. There is no reason to believe that such a decrease has occurred; on the contrary the number of European immigrants in India is certainly not less than it was, and everything tends to show that the Eurasian population multiply rapidly. It seems clear, therefore, that Mr. Beverley's estimate was excessive, and that the non-Asiatic Christians were in 1872 a good deal less than 46,000. If this conclusion is accepted, it will be fair to assume that the Christians other than natives of India were in 1872 about 39,000 persons, which would make the total of native Christians 52,603. These figures, compared with those of the census just taken, will give an increase among the native Christian population of 33,703, or 64·07 per cent, and an advance among Christians of all other races of 2,819, or 7·22 per cent.

Christian sects.

198. Table IIIA gives fuller details of the figures, which are stated without elaboration in Table III, and exhibits particulars as to the sect and nationality of all the Christians in Bengal. Before examining these figures, however, it is necessary to explain the manner in which the classification by nationality has been made. The number of nationalities which have been selected for separate exhibition is nine, and these, with the number of Christians belonging to each, and the proportion they bear to 100 of the whole Christian community, are set forth in the margin. British-born subjects, as the term implies, are those who were born within the United Kingdom, and the information regarding them was collected under the orders of the Secretary of State for the British census authorities. The next four classes and the seventh explain themselves, the tests in all cases of difficulty or incomplete description being the name, language, and birthplace. The Eurasian community is composed of all those who described themselves as such or as East Indians, as well as of all those who, though not completely described, bore unmistakeably Eurasian names, and were born in India. The class of "Other Asiatics" was inserted in order to cover Syrian and Armenian Christians. The last group of "All Others," besides including all those about whose sect and nationality the information was hopelessly defective, embraces a large number of persons who could not be placed in any other class, such as the children born in India of European parents, who were, by the terms of the definitions, neither Europeans nor natives of India, nor Eurasians: so that the class absorbs a considerable number of persons who for all practical purposes are Europeans, though not born in Europe.

No. 12.—Statement showing the Numbers and the Population Per Cent of the Different Races of Christians.

Races.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion in 100 Christians.
British-born subjects	8,754	1,829	10,583	8·26
Other Europeans ...	7,223	6,415	13,638	10·65
Americans ...	316	76	392	·21
Australians ...	53	35	88	·06
Africans ...	67	50	17	·01
Eurasians ...	7,351	7,354	14,705	11·48
Natives of India ...	42,712	43,594	86,306	67·40
Other Asiatics ...	646	447	1,093	·85
All others ...	610	653	1,263	·98
Total ...	67,715	60,420	128,135	100

Distribution of the races of Christians.

Europeans.

199. Part 1 of Table III A shows the distribution of the Christians by race through the districts of Bengal. As might have been supposed, the Europeans, both those born in Great Britain and those who are natives of other European countries, are thinly scattered throughout all the districts of Bengal, except where large cities, cantonments, or occupations specially followed by Europeans attract them in larger numbers. Thus they are most numerous in Calcutta and its environs, including the transpontine suburb of Howrah, and in the metropolitan district of the 24-Pergunnahs, which includes the cantonments of Barrackpore and Dum-Dum. In Darjeeling the cultivation of tea, aided by the existence of a convalescent depôt and a cantonment, is responsible for the numbers that the

district returns; the Patna district contains the cantonment of Dinapore, and the large and important city of Patna attracts a considerable staff of officials, railway employés and others; in Monghyr and in Burdwan the East Indian Railway Company has large central stations, each accommodating a large European staff; Cuttack, the principal town in Orissa, has a considerable resident official population in addition to those employed on its canals, and to the seamen who visit its ports in European vessels. In Chittagong also the number of Europeans is swelled by the presence of seamen, and in Dacca the figures are high, from the attractions which the jute trade offers to European capital and enterprise. To all the North Gangetic districts of the Patna and Bhaugulpore Divisions indigo-planting has brought many Europeans, and Nuddea and Moorshedabad owe their numbers partly to the same cause and partly to the silk trade, though the manufacture of indigo in these districts is not now what it was 30 years ago. Yet when all is told the number of Europeans in Bengal, even including among them the whole of the class of "All Others," only amounts to 25,484 persons, or 1 in 30,000 of the whole population.

200. The Americans, Australians, and Africans are for the most part accidental visitors, and are almost wholly found in Calcutta and its neighbourhood. The Australians are chiefly grooms who have come from Australia with horses, while the Americans and Africans are mostly seamen from the ships in port, though the mercantile community and an American Mission furnish a small contribution to the total of Americans.

Eurasians.

201. The present status and future prospects of the Eurasian population are questions which have long attracted the solicitous attention of Government, and their numbers and distribution are therefore points to which an importance attaches altogether out of proportion to their numerical prominence. Unfortunately, from the nature of the case these are points on which it is very difficult to obtain accurate statistics. The stigma which in all countries attaches to the half-breed is perhaps nowhere felt more keenly than in India, where the Eurasian is rejected both by the pure Europeans whom he imitates, and by the natives of the country whom he affects to despise—a sentiment which is returned by them with interest. The tendency to deny the intermixture of native blood and to claim pure European parentage is very strong among them; and it is well known that in all returns showing the number of Eurasians the error is never one of overstatement. At the census just taken many persons of mixed parentage certainly did record themselves correctly as Eurasians, and the orders issued to the compiling clerks for their guidance in doubtful cases certainly resulted in the entry under the proper heading of many persons who would otherwise have been shown under "All Others:" but nevertheless it seems likely that the Eurasian population has been a good deal understated at 14,705, or only 11·48 per cent of the whole Christian population. This will be clearer if their distribution throughout the different districts is examined; for although, as will be shown below, there are certain districts and places where Eurasians specially congregate, yet it is most improbable that any district in Bengal should have absolutely no representatives of the half-caste, or so few as some are shown to have in Table IIIA. The general accuracy, however, of the figures in the table is established by the fact that Eurasians are shown to be most numerous just in those places where it was expected that they would be found. In Calcutta and its suburbs, including Howrah, they muster very strong, amounting to 10,112, or nearly 70 per cent of the whole Eurasian community. Dacca and Backergunge have large colonies, the former partly the families of old pensioners, partly employés in the jute business, and the latter having a colony of Eurasians, who are the fruits of a Roman Catholic Mission in that district and the offspring of the settlers of a former generation. Monghyr possesses a considerable population, chiefly pensioners and their families, and the same may be said of Patna, where a considerable number find employment in the Opium Factory and the Railway. In only two other districts, viz. Burdwan and Cuttack, is their total more than 200, and in thirty-five districts there are less than 100 individuals.

202 The Other Asiatics are almost entirely Armenians living in Calcutta and Dacca.

Native Christians.

203. The Native Christians, who conclude the list, are the most rapidly progressing class in Bengal. It has been shown that they have increased, chiefly by conversion, at the rate of 64·07 per cent during the nine years which have

elapsed since the census of 1872, and it only remains to notice their distribution. Out of the whole number of 86,306 more than one-third, or 35,992, are found in Lohardugga, where a German Protestant Mission has long been labouring among the aboriginal and semi-Hinduised tribes of that district. The 24-Pergunnahs stand next with 8,048, the converts of several Missionary Societies, both Protestant and Romanist. Dacca has 7,710, mostly Roman Catholics, and Nuddea 6,304, partly converts of the Church Missionary Society and partly members of a Romish Mission Church in that district. Calcutta itself has comparatively few, viz. a little more than 4,000, including the suburbs. Six other districts have more than 1,000 in each. Backergunge has 2,892, Furreedpore 2,591, and Chumparun 1,814, in all of which districts the Roman Catholic Church has Mission stations. The Sonthal Pergunnahs have 2,718, and Singbhoom 2,988, where the Church Missionary Society and the German Lutheran Mission work respectively; and Cuttack, where a Baptist Mission has long been established, has 1,819.

Sects in combination with race.

204. Part II of Table IIIA shows how the different sects of Christians are distributed, and Part III gives their sects in combination with race. Thus the first and second parts show the distribution of Christians, district by district, giving in the first instance details of race, and in the second details of sect, and thus both illustrate the third part, which, without giving the local distribution, shows for all Bengal the sect and race of Christians in combination, and is in some respects the most interesting of the three parts.

Numbers of each sect.

205. The sects which were returned in the census schedules, excluding those which were unintelligible and were therefore entered under the heading "Sect not stated," are recited in the margin, and they have been entered in similar detail in the table. It is not pretended that the classification is either scientific or exhaustive, but it is hoped that it will answer the purpose of a rough separation of the leading parties in the Christian Church in Bengal.

Protestant.
Church of England.
Ditto Scotland.
Episcopalian.
Roman Catholic.
Dissenter.
Free Church of Scotland.
Baptist.
Methodist.
Independent.
Unitarian.
Calvinist.
Lutheran.
Moravian.
Greek.
Syrian.
Armenian.
Plymouth Brother.
Quaker.
Christian, sect not stated.

206. The first glance at Part III of the table would seem to show that the Roman Catholics are most largely represented in Bengal, with 26,725 persons; but this numerical superiority disappears if it is borne in mind that the whole of those who have been returned as "Protestants," viz. 9,528, and a considerable number of those who have described themselves simply as "Christians," without further specification of sect, are probably members of the Established Church of England, and bring its total up to about 36,000 persons. The members of the various other Protestant churches amount to nigh upon 67,000, of whom the Lutherans (23,556) are far the most numerous. Moreover, the total entered against this community is very far below the truth; for it should be noticed that they have long held chief possession of the mission field in Lohardugga: so that perhaps 7,000 of the 10,232 Christians of unspecified sect found in that district should be included among the Lutheran Christians, thus carrying their total above 30,000. The Baptists would appear to be nearly 17,000 strong; but it is doubtful whether all those entered as Baptists really belong to this persuasion, since it is believed that other sections of the Christian Church in Bengal have adopted the custom of total immersion at baptism, so that the term *dubit* or "dipped" may mean either a baptised Christian or a member of the Baptist sect.

207. The Syrian, Greek, and Armenian Churches are but slenderly represented, and on the whole it may be said that if we include in their proper place those persons for whom details of sect are not available, the Christians in Bengal may be roughly divided into the following groups:—

Church of England	...	...	36,000
Lutherans	...	...	30,000
Church of Rome	...	...	29,000
Baptists	...	...	17,000
Other Protestant Churches	...	...	16,000

208. From this part of the table also much interesting information may be obtained as to the proportions in which the different races of Christians are

distributed among the various churches, but the subject is so large an one that it is impossible to do more than treat it very briefly in this place. The great majority of the British-born subjects belong, as was to be expected, to the Established Church of England, the Roman Catholics standing next. Among the "Other Europeans" the proportion of Romanists is higher, since so many of the continental nations of Europe profess the faith of Rome; but even among these persons the Protestant English Church retains its place in the front rank. Of the Eurasians, on the other hand, 8,013, or more than two-thirds, are Roman Catholics, while only about half that number belong to the English Established Church. The 86,306 native Christians are appropriated almost entirely by four sections of the Christian Church. The Lutherans claim 23,199; but, for reasons already stated, their true number would appear to be nearer 30,000. The Baptists stand next with 15,214, though the figures must be received with some reservation. The Anglican Church probably has as many, though it is impossible to state their numbers with exactness; and the Church of Rome has 13,000. The class of "Other Asiatics," as already explained, consists almost entirely of Armenians.

Local distribution of the sects.

209. The second part of Table IIIA will show how the different sects are distributed through Bengal. In Calcutta, owing to the large number of Eurasians in the Christian population, the Roman Catholics almost equal the number of members of the Church of England. The Established English Church has also many members in districts where there are cantonments, and there are important mission stations of the Church Missionary Society in Nuddea and the Sonthal Pergunnahs, and of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Lohardugga. The converts of Gossner's Evangelical Lutheran Mission, as has already been stated, are found very largely in Lohardugga. The Scotch Church has a thriving mission in the eastern Himalayas with its head-quarters at Darjeeling. Besides furnishing resident chaplains wherever there are cantonments and British troops, and visiting chaplains for outlying stations, the Church of Rome has several important missions to the natives in different parts of Bengal. The whole province is divided into five dioceses, which are supervised respectively by the Vicars-Apostolic of Patna, of Western Bengal (Calcutta), of Dacca and Chittagong (Dacca), of Orissa (Vizagapatam), and by the Prefect Apostolic of Central Bengal, who resides at Kishnaghur. Of these missions the most considerable are at Kishnaghur, Jessore, Dacca, Backergunge, and Cuttack, two in the 24-Pergunnahs, one in Midnapore, several in the Chota Nagpore Division, and two in North Behar, which were founded in 1746 and 1769, the oldest of the two, viz. that at Bettiah, having an interesting and stirring history of alternate prosperity and persecution.

Buddhism. Its history.

210. The statistics of Buddhism in India, especially in Bengal, supply one of the most remarkable examples in history of the decadence of a popular faith. Behar and the neighbouring portions of the North-Western Provinces compose the Holy Land of the Buddhists. Here Gautama Buddha was born; here he fasted, studied, taught, and died; and time was when the pilgrims from distant continents to the Tree of Wisdom at Bodh Gya, or to the monasteries of Rajgir, were not less numerous or devout than those who thronged the Courts of the Holy Sepulchre or crowded the precincts of the Kaaba. The Buddhist religion is now believed to number 500 millions of followers, or more than one-third of the whole population of the world, and yet the Indian Buddhists only amount to half a million of that number. Founded in Behar in the middle of the fifth century before Christ, Buddhism gradually spread through Upper India, till in the middle of the third century before the Christian era it became the State religion under a monarch whose kingdom extended from Peshawar to the mouth of the Ganges, and whose ambassadors converted Ceylon to Buddhism and dictated terms to four Greek kings. At this time and up to the fifth century of our era all the valley of the Ganges was Buddhist. From that date Brahmanism, which had been carrying on a continual struggle with it from about the date of the birth of Christ, began to gain ground, and the journals of the Chinese pilgrims who visited India in 400 A.D., 518 A.D., and 629 A.D., testify to the growing ascendency of the Brahminical doctrines in Benares and Behar, though lower down the Ganges and in Orissa Buddhism was as vigorous as ever. Shortly after the visit of the last pilgrim persecutions of Buddhists are said to have broken out; and though the tradition wants verification, there is no doubt that in the eighth

and ninth centuries of the Christian era Buddhism, deserted by the State and disfigured by the additions of a debased and ignorant priesthood, had become so corrupt that it no longer attracted the people, so that when Kashmir was conquered by the Moslems in the twelfth century no Buddhists were found in India, and a religion which had once been professed by the population of a continent was now represented by a few members of the cognate sect of the Jains.

And progress.

211. The Buddhists in Bengal, as has already been stated, now number 155,809 persons, or slightly more than the Christians, as against 80,607 returned in 1872; thus showing a large advance of 93·29 per cent in nine years, or more than 10 per cent per annum. This large increase, however, is more apparent than real, for while Buddhism is not a religion which seeks for converts, the very small number of districts in which this advance is observed at once suggests and makes possible a satisfactory explanation in each case. Out of the increase of 75,000 persons 27,000 are contributed by the Chittagong Hill Tracts, 24,000 by the regulation district of Chittagong, and 18,000 by the Darjeeling district. The increase in the Chittagong Hill Tracts is due solely to better enumeration, although it almost entirely absorbs the district increase of 31,000 persons. The same explanation is to be offered for the Chittagong district figures, for they denote a more accurate enumeration of the Mugh population, many of whom at the census of 1872 must have been returned as Hindus, inasmuch as there is no immigration into the district worth the name, and the advance noted is beyond the powers of natural increase. The increase in Darjeeling is due to the great number of immigrants from Nepal, Thibet, and Bhootan, attracted thither by the prospect of employment in the cultivation of tea. The Buddhists found in other districts than these are extremely few, with the exception of Backergunge, where there is a Mugh colony of nearly 5,000 souls, the descendants of Mugh buccaneers from the Arrakan coast. In most other cases the Buddhists are stray Nepalese, Bhootia or Mugh servants, or Chinese carpenters.

Jews.

212. Turning to the less numerously represented religions, it will be seen that the Jews in Bengal only number 1,059, females preponderating slightly. Almost the whole number, or 982 of both sexes, is found in Calcutta, where they form a well-defined and well-organised community under the leadership of men who are alike remarkable for their wealth, their liberality, and their capacity for business.

Parsees.

213. The Parsees have only 156 representatives, of whom all but 4 were found in Calcutta and its vicinity.

Sikhs.

214. The Sikhs are returned as 549 only, and it is impossible to avoid the conclusion first suggested by the actual inspection of some census schedules that many followers of this religion have been entered as Hindus of the Sikh sect. To this cause must be assigned the absence of Sikhs in Patna, where a Sikh colony clusters round an ancient temple, and in Chumparun, where the Segowlie cantonments certainly contained Sikh horsemen. Of those who returned themselves correctly as Sikhs, the greater portion are found in Calcutta, where there is a small Sikh colony and a native regiment containing Sikh sepoys. The same explanation serves for the appearance of 54 Sikhs in the Sonthal Pergunnahs.

Jains.

215. The Jains in Bengal are for the most part aliens and strangers. The Jain religion, once popular and powerful, has now but few adherents in these provinces who have not come here for purposes of trade; and as a national faith it has been almost as completely obliterated as Buddhism. When Jainism first arose in Bengal is a question to which no satisfactory answer has yet been found, but a consideration of much conflicting evidence would seem to show that it rose into prominence about the middle of the fifth century before Christ. The claims of antiquity and of origin antecedent to Buddhism which its adherents put forth seem untenable, and the opinion of those best informed on the subject is that Jainism is an offshoot from Buddhism, and may not unfairly be described as a compromise between Hinduism and Buddhism. Between the latter religion and Jainism indeed most striking resemblances are found in terminology, doctrine, and religious practice; and it is impossible to avoid the conclusion that the Jains have merely magnified the Buddhist ideas, and that when Buddhism began to fade away of internal decay and before the attacks of Brahmanism, many Buddhists found a safe and convenient asylum in the doctrines of the Jain

religion. In course of time as Buddhism lost its power still more and more Jainism has drawn nearer to Hinduism, till there are now those who affirm that it was an offshoot of the religion of the Vedas, and not of that of the Buddhist sage.

216. So much is this the case, that it must be taken as the explanation of the very small number of Jains who appear as such in the census tables. No class of the Indian community is more universally disseminated throughout these provinces than the Marwari traders, the Jews of India, who are mostly Jains by religion, and three Bengal districts, those of Hazaribagh, Gya, and Pooree, contain Jain places of pilgrimage; yet, save in a few districts, as a glance at Table III will show, the Jains are quite unrepresented, the three districts just named being no exception to this general rule. It is therefore impossible not to believe that the unfortunate attempt to secure information about "sect" has vitiated the figures for Jains as it has those for Sikhs and Brahmos, and that a large number of Jains have been entered as Hindus by religion and Jains by sect. Most of the Marwari traders belong to the subdivisions of the Bunnia caste, known as Agarwala, Oswal, &c., or are known as Srawaks; and the large number of Hindus returned under these castes, combined with the regularity of their distribution, furnishes a strong evidence in support of the argument just stated. Instances of this error were observed and corrected in Calcutta on the night of the census, and it is certain that they were very numerous in the district enumerations.

217. Taking the figures as they stand, however, there would appear to be only 1,609 Jains in Bengal, of whom 1,174 are males and only 435 females. The sect is most numerously represented in Moorshedabad, where the Jains have long formed a rich and powerful community in the city of that name and in the neighbouring commercial centres. Here is the home of the great Seth family, whose wealth is a proverb, and all of whom till a few generations since professed the Jain doctrines. The equality in the numbers of males and females denotes the length of their residence in the district. Rungpore and Pubna stand next, with, however, a very large excess of males over females; and in Cooch Behar, though there are 144 Jain men, there is not a single Jain woman. In Calcutta the sect is represented by 130 males and 13 females.

Brahmos.

218. The Brahmo Somaj or Hindu monotheistic sect was first founded by the well-known Brahman thinker Raja Ram Mohun Roy soon after the beginning of the present century, and was supported after his death by his friend, Baboo Dwarka Nath Tagore, whose son Debendro Nath Tagore passed on the leadership to the present living head of the society, Baboo Keshub Chunder Sen. The sect is divided into two parties, the Stationary and the Progressive Brahmos; but no attempt has been made to maintain this distinction in the census tables. In 1872 the Brahmos were included among Hindus, and the figures in Table III seem to indicate that a large proportion of them have again been shown in the same manner. The adherents of the sect are almost entirely educated Bengalis, with, sometimes, their wives and families, and they are therefore chiefly found in large towns and at the head-quarters of districts, at few of which are they unrepresented. The census tables, however, only show 788 in the whole of Bengal, out of whom 763 are in Bengal proper, and from thirty-six districts none at all have been returned. It is beyond doubt that they have described themselves or been described in many cases as Hindus—a course which is not remarkable when we consider that many persons rank them as a puritanical monotheistic sect of the Hindus, while the fact that the sect is in many places looked on with disfavour would be enough to induce many to shrink from avowing the principles which they really entertain. Two-thirds of the whole number returned are to be found in Calcutta.

All Others.

219. It will be observed that the religions in Table III conclude with the heading of "All Others," and that the table is followed by a subsidiary one giving details of the population comprised under the appellation "All Others" in the preceding statement. The explanation is that at first it was intended that in a statement showing *religions* and not *nationalities* no details should be given of the heterogeneous mass of tribal faiths which composed the greater part of this class; but the Census Commissioner was of opinion that so large a number of persons as 2,091,226 could not properly be shown under so indefinite a heading

as that of "All Others;" and in deference to his wishes the subsidiary table was added after Table No. III had been printed off in its original shape. The same explanation serves for the appearance in their places of statements subsidiary to the large Tables VI, VII, and XIII.

220. An examination of these subsidiary statements will show that the two million persons who were first classed as "All Others" are divided into five great groups, viz. Sonthals 883,938, Kols 613,863, Other Western Aborigines 469,622, Eastern Aborigines 88,399, and the indefinite class of "Others and Unspecified" numbering 35,404. The classification is one which is certainly open to criticism, but it is probably the best which could be made under the circumstances. The religions of the people included under the class of "All Others" are altogether beyond the reach of formulation. They are for the most part, where the description is intelligible at all, mere variations of the Nature worship, which is the first form of religion that primitive societies develope. They possess neither creed nor dogma, neither churches nor teachers; and while there runs through them all the general idea of a great spirit who is to be worshipped in his various manifestations in the world of nature, and of inferior deities harmful or beneficent, whose wrath must be assuaged or favour secured, that alone which distinguishes each one from the next is a divergency of tribal custom which is due to a separate origin, or, when both are of the same parent stock, to a dissociation centuries old. On these considerations was based the proposal to class them all together as "Aboriginals," "Nature-worshippers," or simply "Others:" but, as already stated, this proposition was negatived, and the numbers of the principal component parts of the mass have been shown separately. In so doing it is obvious that the classification by religion has been abandoned in favour of what is rather a classification by nationality. It cannot be pretended that the Kol religion, for instance, is one which can stand on the same platform as the sharply defined faiths of Christianity or Mahomedanism. To say that a man is a Parsee denotes with unmistakeable clearness his religious belief; but to say of another that he is a Sonthal denotes his nationality and only dimly connotes his religion. Under these circumstances it was considered better to abandon altogether the attempt to maintain a religious classification in the statement subsidiary to Table III, and the classification adopted is therefore a purely ethnological one, modified by considerations of expediency. Properly speaking there should have been four ethnological divisions, viz. Dravidians, Kolarians, Eastern Aboriginals, and Others. But while the number of Dravidians was uncertain and their separation would have been difficult, the two principal Kolarian families, viz. the Kols and the Sonthals, were so large as to demand separate exhibition. Accordingly they have been shown by themselves, while the Dravidians are merged with the other Kolarians in the general term Other Western Aborigines—a term which includes all the non-Aryan tribes whose homes are in Western Bengal, in the Orissa and Chota Nagpore Divisions, and in the groups of Feudatory States attached to them. Under the heading of Eastern Aborigines are collected figures for the various tribes, Indo-Tibetan, Indo-Chinese, and Indo-Burmese, which inhabit the slopes of the Eastern Himalayas, the valleys of Assam, and the mountain system which forms the eastern and south-eastern boundary of Bengal.

Details of the group.

Explanation of the classification adopted.

221. The number of persons who have been recorded as professing the Sonthal religion is 883,938; but this is very far from representing the Sonthal nation. There is a very considerable number of persons returned as Hindus, whose caste has been shown under a purely aboriginal or semi-aboriginal name. Thus, while the Sonthals by religion are returned as 883,938, one-fourth of that number, or 203,264 other persons, are returned as Sonthals by caste although Hindu by religion, thus composing one-fifth of what is really one people from an ethnological point of view. The same may be said of the Kols and of many other aboriginal tribes, so that although it may be urged that those tribesmen who have entered themselves as Hindu by religion are more civilised than their fellows, and are separated from them by a very broad line, yet doubtless to the ethnologist they form one family; and it is impossible to arrive at any just appreciation of their numbers and distribution without considering them together. In the following statement, accordingly, the figures are placed side by side.

No. 13.—*Statement showing the Number of*

1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Districts.	Sonthals by Religion.			Hindu Sonthals.			Grand Total.		
		Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.
Burdwan.	Burdwan	3,163	3,255	*6,418*	2,909	2,897	*5,806*	6,072	6,152	*12,224*
	Bankoora	41,784	42,775	*84,559*	9,507	10,527	*20,034*	51,291	53,302	*104,593*
	Beerbhoom	7,138	7,034	*14,172*	391	335	*726*	7,529	7,369	*14,898*
	Midnapore	55,314	56,748	*112,062*	304	261	*565*	55,618	57,009	*112,627*
	Hooghly	24	13	*37*	36	.....	*36*	60	13	*73*
	Howrah	6	.....	*6*	66	1	*67*	72	1	*73*
	Total	107,429	109,825	217,254	13,213	14,021	27,234	120,642	123,846	244,488
Presidency.	24-Pergunnahs	84	39	*123*	30	1	*31*	114	40	*154*
	Suburbs	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Calcutta*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Nuddea	.....	.....	.....	16	13	*29*	16	13	*29*
	Jessore	.....	.....	.....	26	26	*52*	26	26	*52*
	Khulna	.....	.....	.....	12	7	*19*	12	7	*19*
	Moorshedabad	197	180	*377*	830	833	*1,663*	1,027	1,013	*2,040*
	Total	281	219	500	914	880	1,794	1,195	1,099	2,294
Rajshahye.	Dinagepore	858	576	*1,434*	3,650	3,163	*6,813*	4,508	3,739	*8,247*
	Rajshahye	.....	.....	.....	67	72	*139*	67	72	*139*
	Rungpore	4	8	*12*	7	.....	*7*	11	8	*19*
	Bogra	.....	.....	.....	144	108	*252*	144	108	*252*
	Pubna	.....	.....	.....	70	60	*130*	70	60	*130*
	Darjeeling	.....	.....	.....	12	7	*19*	12	7	*19*
	Julpigoree	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Total	862	584	1,446	3,950	3,410	7,360	4,812	3,994	8,806
Dacca.	Dacca	2	....	2	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	2
	Furreedpore	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Backergunge	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Mymensingh	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Total	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	2
Chittagong.	Chittagong	.....	.....	.....	7	5	*12*	7	5	*12*
	Noakholly	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Tipperah	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Total	.....	.....	.....	7	5	12	7	5	12
Total for Bengal Proper		108,574	110,628	219,202	18,084	18,316	36,400	126,658	128,944	255,602

Sontha's and Kols in each District of Bengal.

11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Kols by Religion.			Hindu Kols.			Grand Total.			Districts.
Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.	
.....	.....	.....	1	.....	*1*	1	.....	*1*	Burdwan.
.....	.....	.....	14	.....	*14*	14	.....	*14*	Bankoora.
.....	.....	.....	5	5	*10*	5	5	*10*	Beerbhoom.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Midnapore.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Hooghly.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Howrah.
.....	.....	.....	20	5	25	20	5	25	*Total.*
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24-Pergunnahs.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Suburbs.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Calcutta.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nuddea.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Jessore.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Khulna.
.....	.....	.....	30	26	*56*	30	26	*56*	Moorshedabad.
.....	.....	.....	30	26	56	30	26	56	*Total.*
.....	.....	.....	152	164	*316*	152	164	*316*	Dinagepore.
.....	.....	.....	1	.....	*1*	1	.....	*1*	Rajshahye.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Rungpore
.....	.....	.....	73	84	*157*	73	84	*157*	Bogra.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Pubna.
8	4	*12*	.....	.....	.....	8	4	*12*	Darjeeling.
.....	.....	.....	5	3	*8*	5	3	*8*	Julpigoree.
8	4	12	231	251	482	239	255	494	*Total.*
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Dacca.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Furreedpore.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Backergunge.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Mymensingh.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	*Total.*
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Chittagong.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Noakholly.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Tipperah.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Chittagong Hill Tracts.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	*Total.*
8	4	12	281	282	563	289	286	575	Total for Bengal Proper.

No. 13.—*Statement showing the Number of*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Districts.	Sonthals by Religion.			Hindu Sonthals.			Grand Total.		
	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.
Patna	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gya	2	2	*4*	.....	.....	.....	2	2	*4*
Shahabad	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mozufferpore	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Durbhunga	7	7	*14*	.....	.....	.....	7	7	*14*
Sarun	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chumparun	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Patna. *Total*	9	9	18	.....	.....	.....	9	9	18
Monghyr	3,460	3,478	*6,938*	.....	.....	.....	3,460	3,478	*6,938*
Bhaugulpore	6,795	6,589	*13,384*	20	22	*42*	6,815	6,611	*13,426*
Purneah	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Maldah	902	832	*1,734*	421	412	*833*	1,323	1,244	*2,567*
Sonthal Pergunnahs	270,801	266,745	*537,546*	4,628	4,520	*9,148*	275,429	271,265	*546,694*
Bhaugulpore. *Total*	281,958	277,644	559,602	5,069	4,954	10,023	287,027	282,598	569,625
Total for Behar	281,967	277,653	559,620	5,069	4,954	10,023	287,036	282,607	569,643
Cuttack	1	.....	*1*	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	*1*
Pooree	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Balasore	2,042	2,164	*4,206*	159	180	*339*	2,201	2,344	*4,545*
Angul	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Banki	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Orissa. Total for Orissa	2,043	2,164	4,207	159	180	339	2,202	2,344	4,546
Hazaribagh	28,247	28,351	*56,598*	.....	.....	.....	28,247	28,351	*56,598*
Lohardugga	178	133	*311*	4	3	*7*	182	136	*318*
Singbhoom	323	325	*648*	26,029	25,925	*51,954*	26,352	26,250	*52,602*
Manbhoom	21,421	21,279	*42,700*	42,393	43,510	*86,403*	64,314	64,789	*129,103*
Chota Nagpore. Total for Chota Nagpore	50,169	50,088	100,257	68,926	69,438	138,364	119,095	119,526	238,621
Grand Total for the Province	442,753	440,533	883,286	92,238	92,888	185,126	534,991	533,421	1,068,412
Cooch Behar	18	1	*19*	.....	.....	.....	18	1	*19*
Hill Tipperah	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tributary States, Orissa	336	297	*633*	473	449	*922*	809	746	*1,555*
Ditto, Chota Nagpore	.....	.....	.....	8,601	8,615	*17,216*	8,601	8,615	*17,216*
Feudatory States. Total for Feudatory States	354	298	652	9,074	9,064	18,138	9,428	9,362	18,790
Grand Total, including Feudatory States	443,107	440,831	883,938	101,312	101,952	203,264	544,419	542,783	1,087,202

Sonthals and Kols in each District of Bengal—continued.

11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Kols by Religion.			Hindu Kols.			Grand Total.			Districts.
Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.	
3	1	*4*	.....	.....	.....	3	1	*4*	Patna.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Gya.
11	9	*20*	.....	.....	.....	11	9	*20*	Shahabad.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Mozufferpore.
75	69	*144*	.....	.....	.....	75	69	*144*	Durbhunga.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Sarun.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Chumparun.
89	79	168	.....	.....	.....	89	79	168	*Total.*
104	111	*215*	14	17	*31*	118	128	*246*	Monghyr.
1,161	1,161	*2,322*	1	.....	*1*	1,162	1,161	*2,323*	Bhaugulpore.
352	327	*679*	222	236	*458*	574	563	*1,137*	Purneah.
.....	.....	.....	438	459	*897*	438	459	*897*	Maldah.
4,396	4,383	*8,779*	1,092	1,002	*2,094*	5,488	5,385	*10,873*	Sonthal Pergunnahs.
6,013	5,982	11,995	1,767	1,714	3,481	7,780	7,696	15,476	*Total.*
6,102	6,061	12,163	1,767	1,714	3,481	7,869	7,775	15,644	Total for Behar.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Cuttack.
.....	.....	.....	11	9	*20*	11	9	*20*	Pooree.
.....	.....	.....	2	.....	*2*	2	.....	*2*	Balasore.
.....	.....	.....	506	534	*1,040*	506	534	*1,040*	Angul.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Banki.
.....	.....	.....	519	543	1,062	519	543	1,062	Total for Orissa.
4,305	4,510	*8,815*	77	55	*132*	4,382	4,565	*8,947*	Hazaribagh.
288,875	302,985	*591,858*	.....	.....	.....	288,875	302,985	*591,858*	Lohardugga.
.....	.....	.....	93,396	94,327	*187,723*	93,396	94,327	*187,723*	Singbhoom.
248	241	*489*	1,414	1,319	*2,733*	1,662	1,560	*3,222*	Manbhoom.
293,426	307,736	601,162	94,887	95,701	190,588	388,313	403,437	791,750	Total for Chota Nagpore.
299,536	313,801	613,337	97,454	98,240	195,694	396,990	412,041	809,031	Grand Total for the Province.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Cooch Behar.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Hill Tipperah.
.....	.....	.....	1,520	1,442	*2,962*	1,520	1,442	*2,962*	Tributary States, Orissa.
270	256	*526*	29,940	29,207	*59,147*	30,210	29,463	*59,673*	Ditto, Chota Nagpore.
270	256	526	31,460	30,649	62,109	31,730	30,905	62,635	Total for Feudatory States.
299,806	314,057	613,863	128,914	128,889	257,803	428,720	442,946	871,666	Grand Total, including Feudatory States.

Sonthals.

222. The Sonthals compose the largest section of the great Kolarian family, which affinities of language show to have been of Turanian origin and to have emigrated from the north-eastern corner of Bengal at some period of time so remote that by long intercourse and intermarriage with the black aboriginal races of Central India they have now lost their distinctive Mongolian features. Their legends cluster round the two great central ideas of a mountan home and a great river; and as they can be traced along both banks of the Damudar, from the sea to their present home, it has been conjectured that when they left the valley of the Brahmaputra and the eastern slopes of the Himalaya they passed to the south and skirted the Bay of Bengal till they struck the mouth of the Damudar, up which they passed to their later homes. Other traditions assign to them a birthplace in the north-western corner of the Chota Nagpore plateau, and assert that they were driven out thence by Hindu invaders and emigrated to the north-east. These legends, however, can be shown to be of comparatively modern origin, and relate to the time when a second emigration carried them to their present homes. This region Colonel Dalton described in 1874 as "a strip of Bengal extending for about 350 miles from the Ganges to the Baitarni, bisected by the meridian of Bhaugulpore, or 87° east longitude, and comprising the following districts:—Bhaugulpore, the Sonthal Pergunnahs, Beerbhoom, Bankura, Hazaribagh, Manbhoom, Singbhoom, Midnapore, the Mohurbhunj State, and Balasore," and the description still holds good. Unlike other Kolarian races, the Sonthals do not go far afield in search of employment, and their reverence for a great river is a curiously prominent feature of their distribution, for hardly any are found east of the Hooghly, north of the Ganges, or south of the Baitarni, as if they were unwilling to place these streams between them and their homes. In the area comprised within those boundaries they are fairly numerous, but their chosen home is in the districts noted in the margin, which correspond almost exactly with those in Colonel Dalton's list. But though the districts are the same, their serial order is very different, and the variations are full of significance. The total number of Sonthals returned in 1872 was 923,592, and in 1881 it was 1,087,202, an increase of 163,610, or 17·71 per cent. No doubt a considerable part of this advance is due to better enumeration as well as to the actual increase of a prosperous and vigorous people, but even assuming for the sake of argument that it is all natural increase, and applying this standard to the advance in the districts named above, we find an excess so much greater than the standard that it could only be explained by very extensive immigration, were it not for the fact that the figures in Chapter X show that the proportion of persons born in the Sonthal Pergunnahs who were living outside the district at the time of the census was only 2·03 per cent of the whole population born in the district. Only three districts, those of Manbhoom, Bhaugulpore, and Monghyr, have fewer Sonthals now than they had in 1872; and it seems likely that the disturbances which took place in the Sonthal Pergunnahs just previous to the final enumeration of the census of 1881 had the effect of drawing back to their homes many Sonthals who were abroad and would otherwise have been found in these neighbouring districts. In the Sonthal Pergunnahs district itself the Sonthals are more numerous than they were in 1872 by 20 per cent. If now the list of districts given in the preceding paragraph be examined with a map, it will be seen that, with the exception of Hazaribagh and Dinagepore, the whole of the districts which show an increase in their Sonthal population lie to the south or south-east of the Sonthal Pergunnahs; and it thus is clear that the

Their local distribution.

No. 14.—*Statement showing the Movement of the Sonthal Population since the Census of* 1872.

District.	1872.	1881.	Percentage of increase or decrease.
Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	455,513	546,694	+20·01
Manbhoom	132,455	129,103	−2·53
Midnapore	96,921	112,627	+16·20
Singbhoom	51,132	52,602	+2·87
Hazaribagh	35,306	56,598	+60·30
Bankoorah	25,378	104,523	+312·14
Bhaugulpore	16,468	13,426	−18·47
Monghyr	13,957	6,938	−50·29
Beerbhoom	6,954	14,898	+114·23
Burdwan	4,487	12,224	+172·43
Balasore	1,176	4,545	+286·47
Dinagepore	1,039	8,247	+693·74

tide of emigration which set in 100 years ago from the western and northern parts of Hazaribagh is still moving in the same easterly direction, the Hazaribagh increase being probably only one of more accurate enumeration, while that in Dinagepore affords an instance of the well-known tendency of Hindustanis when once well settled to draw after them increasing numbers of relatives and fellow-villagers from their homes. At the census of 1891 it will be interesting to note whether this process has continued, and whether the Sonthals have gone east of the Hooghly.

223. One noticeable fact which should not be overlooked while examining the figures for Sonthal emigrants is the equality which exists between the numbers of the sexes among them. The statement on page 90 and Table No. XI (pages 341 and 359 of Appendix B) show that the number of Sonthals outside the Sonthal Pergunnahs is almost equally divided between males and females—a fact which might have been expected from their strong sense of the family tie, and from the liberty of action which their women enjoy. When the Sonthal emigrates he takes his wife and family with him, and does not, like the Behari, start to seek his fortune by himself, leaving his womenkind at home and supporting them by scanty remittances from his small savings in the far off land of his adoption.

Kols.

224. The number of Kols shown in the statement on page 93 is 871,666, of whom 613,863 have returned themselves as belonging to the Kol religion and 257,803 as Kols by caste, though professing the Hindu religion. Before examining the details of these figures or the statistics of the distribution of Kols, two or three preliminary remarks are necessary. In the first place it is to be remembered that Kol is a generic term for the whole group of tribes included within the term Kolarian; and that when the name is used in its more restricted sense, to say that a man is a Kol usually means either that he is a Munda Kol or a Larka Kol—a class which is more generally known as the Ho. Unfortunately the loose use of the term is so general, and it was therefore so completely beyond the power of the compiling staff to correct it even had they been permitted to do so, that the figures for Kols represent no exact idea. On the one hand they include members of various tribes which have separate names but belong to the great Kolarian family, and on the other hand they do not include all those persons to whom the term in the broader sense is properly applicable, who have been entered with closer specification as Mundas, Hos, Bhumij or Kharrias. Under these circumstances it is impossible to claim any great accuracy for the description, and all that can be said is, not that all the Kols are entered under that name, but only that all those who are entered as Kols are Kolarians.

Their local distribution.

225. Taking the figures as they stand, however, in the foregoing statement on page 93, it will be seen that the area of Kol distribution is still more limited than that of the Sonthals, and that out of the 871,666 Kols returned 791,750 are in the Chota Nagpore Division, which has long been the home of the race, 15,476 are in the southern districts of the Bhaugulpore Division, and 62,635 in the neighbouring Tributary States of Orissa and Chota Nagpore. Lohardugga, the home of the Munda Kols, has more than half the whole total, viz. 591,858; and Singbhoom, where the Larka Kols or Hos have their habitat, stands next with 187,723. Besides the districts of the Divisions mentioned above only fifteen have Kols at all, and to so small an extent do they emigrate to distant places that these fifteen districts have a total Kol population of 1,805 only. The number of Kols returned at the census of 1872 was only 535,162, and the figures in the margin show how they were distributed throughout the different provinces at either census. The variations are so large that they support what has already been said as to the inexactness of the term, and the figures will not repay detailed analysis. Generally speaking it may be said that they emigrate to a very short distance from home, and are found almost exclusively in the Chota Nagpore Division and the Tributary States of South-Western Bengal, where the tribe have long been settled.

	1872.	1881.
Bengal	1,493	575
Behar	16,578	15,644
Orissa	306	1,062
Chota Nagpore	468,231	791,750
Feudatory States... ...	51,553	62,635
Total ...	538,162	871,666

Other Western Aborigines.

226. The religions which have been shown as those of "Other Western Aborigines," after the exclusion of Kols and Sonthals, are shown in the margin, with the numbers returned as professing each. With the exception of the last two, it will be observed that they are all tribal names, and are in point of fact not the names of religions at all. They all occurred in schedules from the south-western part of Bengal, and have therefore been grouped together under this general designation. Many of these names occur again as the names of castes among persons who have been returned as Hindus by religion, as will be seen upon a reference to Table XXVI, which gives details of the minor Hindu castes. The first ten of the series are the names of Kolarian, and the remaining two of Dravidian tribes. Of the last three names in the list it should be explained that "poithalik," meaning "idolator," was the vague, but convenient, term used by the Orissa enumerators, especially those in the Tributary States, to describe all those persons, of whatever aboriginal religion or tribe, who were not Hindus. Paharia similarly means only "hillman;" and as it was impossible to ascertain from this term what religion, or even what tribe, was intended, the only course left open was to enter them among the "Other Western Aborigines."

Kolarians.	
Munda	14,310
Karwa	6,888
Chuar	5,766
Mahili	2,510
Brijia	376
Bhumij	129
Kharwar	112
Bheel	87
Kharria	44
Korwa	22

Dravidians.	
Uraon	21,115
Dhangar	4,835

Indefinite.	
Poithalik	362,521
Paharia	50,906
Nagpuri	1

Eastern Aborigines.

227. The class of Eastern Aborigines comprises the people of non-Aryan race who live on the eastern skirts of the Bengal presidency, and details of the group are given in the margin. Classified on Colonel Dalton's principle, it will be seen that the majority of them belong to the hill tribes of the Northern Frontier, and almost the whole of the remainder come from the South-Eastern Frontier, the Chittagong and Tipperah Hills, and the confines of Arrakan. Many of these names likewise are found in the list of Hindu castes given in Table No. XXVI.

1.	*Hill Tribes of the Northern Frontier—*	
	Garrow	27,450
	Manipuri	8,813
	Kuki	2,733
	Khassia	26
	Naga	1
		39,023
2	*Tribes of the Assam Valley—*	
	Mech	2,153
	Assamese	66
		2,219
3.	*Tribes of the Chittagong and Tipperah Hills—*	
	Tipperah	35,257
	Reang	11,688
	Chakma	211
	Lushai	1
		47,157

Unspecified

228. The "Unspecified" class explains itself, and it only remains to be said that it includes not only those persons concerning whose religion information was altogether wanting, but also those whose religion, though stated, was unintelligible even after minute local enquiry.

CHAPTER VII.

STATISTICS OF CIVIL RELIGION AND AGE CONDITION.

(Tables Nos. V and VI, pages 53 to 157, Appendix B.)

Introductory.

229. These tables show for almost the whole of Bengal details regarding the civil or conjugal condition of the population, exhibiting separately the numbers of the unmarried, the married, and the widowed. The only places for which this information is not given are the Chittagong Hill Tracts, the State of Hill Tipperah, and the State of Gangpore in the Tributary States of Chota Nagpore. In the first two cases the omission was intentional, for it was not thought advisable to attempt the collection of information as to their domestic relations from the people of tracts so backward as these are. The attempt would assuredly have been resented as inquisitorial, and would have imperilled the success of the whole enumeration, while the information given would certainly not have been correct. In Gangpore, on the other hand, as in all the other Tributary States of Chota Nagpore, information as to their conjugal status was obtained from the people; but the destruction of part of the Gangpore papers by fire in the Cuttack Office renders it impossible to exhibit the figures for the whole State. However, the sum of the whole population thus excluded is only 266,407, or no more than ·38 per cent of the whole—a number so insignificant as to be without effect on the conclusions to which the general figures give rise.

230. Table No. V shows for each district in Bengal, and for Divisions and provinces, how many persons of each sex were at the time of the census unmarried, married, or widowed respectively. Table No. VI gives similar information, combined with age and with religion; that is to say, a separate part of the table is given to the followers of each religion, and in each of these parts of the table the unmarried, married, and widowed, are separately arranged in ten groups, according to their age. The age-periods are as follows—0 to 9, 10 to 14, 15 to 19, 20 to 24, 25 to 29, 30 to 39, 40 to 49, 50 to 59, 60 and upwards, and lastly those whose age was unspecified. Thus the first, sixth, seventh, and eighth, are decennial periods, while the ninth and tenth are indefinite; and the four earlier groups, which embrace the twenty years of life when marriage is most frequently contracted, are periods of only five years each, the smaller quantity being taken with the object of examining more closely the numbers of the population in each civil condition at the marrying age. Leaving out of sight for the present all distinction of religion and age, and omitting from consideration all those persons with regard to whom information is defective, viz. the 101,597 who represent the population of the Chittagong Hill Tracts, the 95,637 inhabitants of Hill Tipperah, the 69,173 persons for whom the enumerator's figures were lost by fire, and the 36,146 persons whose ages were not stated, there remains a population for whom full information as to conjugal condition is available numbering 69,234,308 in all, of whom 34,464,755 are males and 34,769,553 are females. In what proportion the single, married, and widowed compose this population, the following table will show:—

No. 15.—Statement showing the Number of Persons of either Sex in each Province of Bengal belonging to each Civil Condition, and the Proportion which they bear to 100 of the Population.

Province.	Sex.	Numbers.				Percentages.		
		Single.	Married.	Widowed.	Total.	Single.	Married.	Widowed.
Bengal Proper	Males	8,915,848	*8,185,019*	691,885	*17,792,752*	50·10	*46 00*	3·88
	Females	5,153,084	*8,147,613*	4,394,490	*17,695,187*	29 12	*46 04*	24·83
Behar	Males	4,538,896	*6,317,665*	523,125	*11,379,686*	39·88	*55·51*	4 60
	Females	3,2.0,9·9	*6,389,155*	2,108,352	*11,734,196*	27·57	*54·44*	17 96
Orissa	Males	922,622	*855,351*	58,233	*1,836?,06*	50·24	*46·58*	3 17
	Females	63·,116	*864,867*	387,995	*1,891,978*	33·78	*45·71*	20·50
Chota Nagpore	Males	1,018,486	*1,015,321*	58,906	*2,092,713*	48·66	*48·51*	2·81
	Females	791,374	*1,035,910*	306,952	*2,131,236*	37·27	*48·60*	14·12
Feudatory States	Males	702,753	*618,610*	42,0·5	*1,363,398*	51·54	*45·37*	3·08
	Females	508,248	*602,550*	205,8.8	*1,316,656*	38·60	*45·76*	15·63
Total All Bengal	Males	16,098,605	*16,991,966*	1,374,184	*34,464,755*	46·71	*49·30*	3·98
	Females	10,331,811	*17,040,095*	7,397,647	*34,769,553*	29·71	*49·00*	21·27

Distribution of the civil conditions in each sex.

231. It will be seen that the males amount to nearly one-half of the population, or 49·77 per cent. Out of their whole number nearly one-half, or 49·30 per cent, are married; not much fewer, or 46·71 per cent, are single; and only 3·98 per cent, or less than one in 25, is a widower. Of the whole female population nearly as large a proportion, or 49 per cent, are married; but the remaining 51 per cent are distributed in a very different manner from the males. Only 29·71 per cent of them are single, but on the other hand the proportion of the widowed is 21·27 per cent, or more than one-fifth of the whole, as against the 4 per cent of the male population. In other words, in comparison with the whole population of each sex, there are nearly twice as many single males as females, and more than five men marry again to one woman who takes a second husband. Taking the two sexes together, the proportion in 100 of the population of both sexes and all ages is 38·21 unmarried, 49·15 married, and 12·62 who are widowed.

Bengal compared with other countries.

232. These figures have nothing of novelty to the observer in India, where not only is marriage universal, but it takes place at a very early age, particularly in the case of girls, and where, while the remarriage of widowers is allowable, that of widows is practically unknown. But, contrasted with the returns for European countries, these statistics may well seem abnormal. The figures in the margin show the proportion borne to every 100 persons of each sex and of all ages by the unmarried, the married, and the widowed in Bengal, in the three divisions of the United Kingdom, and in France.

No. 16.—*Statement comparing for Bengal and for other Countries the Proportions of those who are Unmarried, Married, or Widowed in every* 100 *of the Population.*

Country.	Males.			Females.		
	Unmarried.	Married.	Widowed.	Unmarried.	Married.	Widowed.
England (1871)	61·23	35·11	3·60	58·57	33·88	7·54
Scotland (1871)	66·09	30·61	3·29	62·85	28·71	8·43
Ireland (1871)	67·08	29·25	3·67	61·96	28·58	9·46
France (1876)	53·36	41·29	5·33	48·26	40·83	10·90
Mean of four European countries.	61·95	34·06	3·97	57·90	33·00	9·08
Bengal	*46·71*	*49·30*	*3·98*	*29·71*	*49·00*	*21·27*

Nothing could more clearly indicate the vast difference which exists between the East and the West in all questions of conjugal condition. Under one head alone, viz. the percentage of widowers, is there the faintest similarity between the figures for Bengal and the mean of the four European countries quoted. For every 47 unmarried males of all ages in Bengal, there are 62 in Europe; and for every 49 married males in these provinces, the European population shows only 34. The difference is nearly the same in each case, and gives an excess of married men in Bengal amounting to 15 per cent of the whole male population. The figures for females are still more remarkable, and those for Bengal exhibit a wide divergence from the statistics of Europe in every condition of life. The proportion of unmarried females of all ages in England is nearly twice as great as in Bengal. On the other hand, in these provinces the proportion of wives is greatly in excess of that of the married women in Europe; while—most significant fact of all—the proportion of widows in Bengal is more than twice that of European widows, and they amount to more than one-fifth of the whole female population. Not many words are needed to indicate the moral which these figures teach. They show that the people of Bengal, unchecked by any prudential considerations, marry their daughters at the earliest possible age and as a matter of course; that the discrepancy of age between husband and wife makes many widows; and that their remarriage is virtually unknown.

Figures for each province.

233. If we look more closely, however, into the figures in statement No. 15 on page 97, it will be seen that there is a very considerable variation in the proportions which the single, married, and widowed bear to the whole population of either sex in the different provinces of which Bengal is composed. The single persons, both male and female, form a larger portion of the population in the Feudatory States than in any other part of Bengal; for while the mean of the whole province is 46·71 per cent for males and 29·71 per cent for females, the single men in the Feudatory States are 51·54 per cent of the whole male population, or 5 per cent in excess of the mean, while the spinsters are 38·60 per cent of the female population, or 9 per cent in excess of the general

mean. These figures point to the fact that among the aboriginal tribes child-marriage is not so common as among the Hindus, and that among these peoples there is a greater approximation in the ages of husbands and wives. In Behar alone are the unmarried males below the provincial mean; and so great is the deficiency (nearly 7 per cent) that it reduces the average of the whole province. Of unmarried women also Behar has the lowest percentage, viz. 27·57 per cent. Both these phenomena are caused by the excessive preponderance in that province of the married. The mean of the whole of Bengal is for married males 49·30 per cent, and for married females 49 per cent. In Behar, which alone of all the provinces exceeds the mean of the whole, the ratios are respectively 55·51 per cent and 54·44 per cent. It is remarkable that these proportions should be so high, but the explanation would seem to be first that in the almost purely agricultural and almost entirely Hindu community which inhabits this province early marriage is even more common than in other parts of Bengal, where the intervention of Mahomedans, and of members of other religions, all of whom marry later than the Hindus, produces a comparative deficiency in the number of the married at any given date. The smallest proportion which the married population bears to the whole population of both sexes is to be found in the Feudatory States, for reasons which have been already stated. The disproportion between the number of widowers and widows, everywhere great, is greatest of all in Bengal proper, where it amounts to 21 per cent, there being 25 widows in every 100 women to 4 widowers in the same number of men. In Chota Nagpore and in the Feudatory States, on the other hand, the difference is only 12 per cent, showing either that the remarriage of widows is less uncommon there than elsewhere, or that from husband and wife being more of the same age the dissolution of marriages by the death of the husband is of not so frequent occurrence. Looking, again, at the proportions which widowers bear to the whole male population, the discrepancy between province and province is very remarkable. At first sight remarriage would seem to be least common in Behar and most frequent in Chota Nagpore; and as the taking of a second wife after the decease of the first is an occasion of expense, it is reasonable to believe that it should be less practised by the needy peasantry of Behar than by the comparatively well-to-do population of Chota Nagpore. The widows are both proportionately and actually most numerous in Bengal, as might have been expected from the strong prejudices which are known to exist in that province against the second marriage of widows and in favour of the early marriage of girls.

Civil condition combined with age.

234. Instructive, however, as these figures are, they yield in interest to those which show the civil condition of the population in combination with their age. Here lies a large field of inquiry, of which the outskirts only are approached by the returns of the present census: large questions affecting the well-being of the whole population, especially the female portion of it, underlie the figured statements which accompany this report. The proportions of the sexes, the fecundity of the different races, the mortality among women and children, the social position of women, and the treatment of widows, are all questions on which light could be thrown by accurate information as to the mean ages of the married, the single, and the widowed, the ages of husbands and wives at marriage, the period of child-bearing, and the size of families. Unhappily, however, information on all these heads was not asked for at the late census, so that the conclusions which are drawn from the published figures are necessarily incomplete, and are put forward rather to show what might be done on a future occasion than as an exhaustive discussion of the statistics of the recent census.

235. The figures given in paragraph 230 above show that out of the whole population of Bengal there were 69,234,308 persons at the census of 1881 about whose conjugal condition complete information was collected. Of these persons, 34,464,755 were males and 34,769,553 were females; and it has already been stated that in every 100 males of all ages 46·71 are bachelors, 49·30 married, and 3·98 widowers; while in every 100 females of all ages 29·71 are spinsters, 49 married women, and 21·27 widows. The statement appended below arranges them in periods of ten years, and shows how the population of each decennial period is distributed between the single, the married, and the widowed.

No 17.—Statement showing for Different Religions at Nine Age Periods the

MA

AGES.	HINDUS.			MAHOMEDANS.			CHRISTIANS.		
	Unmarried.	Married.	Widowed.	Unmarried.	Married.	Widowed.	Unmarried.	Married.	Widowed.
0 to 9 ...	*94·44*	*5·39*	*·15*	*98·79*	*1·17*	*·03*	*99·30*	*·68*	*·01*
10 to 14	75·86	23·35	·77	89·82	9·90	·26	95·70	4·19	·10
15 to 19	53·63	44·78	1·59	64·25	34·86	·88	82·17	17·42	·40
Total 10 to 19 ...	*64·74*	*34·06*	*1·17*	*77·03*	*22·38*	*·57*	*88·93*	*10·80*	*·25*
20 to 24	29·19	68·16	2·63	31·35	66·90	1·73	65·05	33·82	1·12
25 to 29	14·47	81·73	3·78	11·82	85·64	2·53	38·71	59·46	1·82
Total 20 to 29 ...	*21·83*	*74·94*	*3·20*	*21·53*	*76·27*	*2·13*	*51·83*	*46·64*	*1·47*
30 to 39 ...	*5·96*	*88·59*	*5·43*	*3·07*	*93·57*	*3·34*	*19·96*	*76·83*	*3·19*
40 to 49 ...	*2·85*	*87·98*	*9·15*	*1·12*	*93·67*	*5·19*	*9·70*	*83·79*	*6·49*
50 to 59 ...	*2·10*	*82·97*	*14·92*	*·72*	*90·76*	*8·51*	*5·56*	*83·67*	*10·76*
60 and over..	*1·81*	*71·58*	*26·59*	*·67*	*82·43*	*16·88*	*4·84*	*76·27*	*18·87*
All Ages ...	44·51	50·76	4·72	50·39	46·93	2·66	59·71	37·70	2·57

FE

0 to 9 ...	*86·11*	*13·32*	*·56*	*91·85*	*7·80*	*·34*	*98·87*	*1·03*	*·08*
10 to 14 ... ,,, ...	29·94	66·59	3·45	29·25	68·59	2·15	84·73	14·87	·39
15 to 19	4·95	87·12	7·91	2·93	92·86	4·19	38·27	59·73	1·99
Total 10 to 19 ...	*17·49*	*76·85*	*5·68*	*16·09*	*80·72*	*3·17*	*61·50*	*37·30*	*1·19*
20 to 24	1·52	87·10	11·36	1·05	91·95	6·99	14·87	79·76	5·36
25 to 29	·87	82·51	16·61	·68	87·40	11·90	6·99	83·93	9·07
Total 20 to 29 ...	*1·19*	*84·80*	*13·98*	*·86*	*89·67*	*9·44*	*10·93*	*81·84*	*7·21*
30 to 39 ...	*·59*	*71·12*	*28·28*	*·52*	*74·10*	*25·37*	*4·73*	*78·33*	*16·92*
40 to 49 ...	*·38*	*50·13*	*49·48*	*·37*	*48·02*	*51·59*	*3·47*	*61·56*	*34·96*
50 to 59 ...	*·31*	*32·12*	*67·55*	*·30*	*28·42*	*71·26*	*2·67*	*40·13*	*57·19*
60 and over..	*·25*	*13·60*	*84·14*	*·28*	*11·87*	*87·84*	*2·81*	*17·85*	*79·33*
All Ages ...	27·76	49·53	22·69	32·17	48·49	19·33	46·69	40·07	13·23

Proportion of Single, Married, and Widowed in each 100 *of the Population.*

LES.

Buddhists.			Aboriginals.			All Religions.		
Unmarried	Married.	Widowed.	Unmarried.	Married.	Widowed.	Unmarried.	Married.	Widowed.
99·54	*·42*	*·02*	*98·76*	*1·20*	*·02*	*96·07*	*3·81*	*·10*
96·81	3·16	·02	90·28	9·55	·15	80·90	18·50	·58
84·90	14·84	·22	63·81	35·36	·81	57·24	41·41	1·34
90·85	*9·00*	*·12*	*77·04*	*22·45*	*·48*	*71·46*	*27·64*	*·89*
51·33	47·28	1·39	30·92	67·43	1·63	30·00	67·65	2·34
22·70	74·51	2·78	12·35	83·53	2·11	13·35	82·96	3·35
37·01	*60·89*	*2·08*	*21·63*	*75·48*	*1·87*	*20·96*	*76·13*	*2·90*
8·63	*87·62*	*3·74*	*3·57*	*93·89*	*2·53*	*5·05*	*90·23*	*4·71*
5·01	*89·59*	*5·38*	*1·32*	*94·53*	*4·13*	*2·31*	*89·35*	*7·83*
2·63	*88·50*	*8·86*	*·96*	*91·88*	*7·14*	*1·67*	*85·47*	*12·84*
3·64	*80·19*	*16·15*	*1·05*	*83·75*	*15·18*	*1·45*	*75·27*	*23·27*
57·32	40·01	2·66	54·94	43·11	1·94	46·71	49·30	3·98

MALES.

98·38	*1·52*	*·09*	*97·69*	*2·17*	*·13*	*88·47*	*11·04*	*·47*
76·01	23·03	·95	73·05	26·12	·81	31·30	65·74	2·95
28·12	67·30	4·57	26·50	70·69	2·80	5·01	88·46	6·52
52·06	*45·16*	*2·76*	*49·77*	*48·40*	*1·80*	*19·23*	*76·17*	*4·59*
8·10	83·16	8·72	6·20	89·26	4·51	1·53	88·68	9·77
3·59	82·76	13·64	2·41	91·25	6·32	·87	84·25	14·86
5·84	*82·96*	*11·18*	*4·30*	*90·25*	*5·41*	*1·18*	*86·35*	*12·45*
2·14	*75·27*	*22·58*	*1·33*	*86·14*	*12·52*	*·60*	*72·40*	*26·99*
1·12	*57·15*	*41·72*	*·81*	*69·49*	*29·69*	*·39*	*50·00*	*49·59*
1·22	*38·75*	*60·02*	*·69*	*51·66*	*47·63*	*·82*	*31·52*	*68·14*
1·89	*17·96*	*80·14*	*·82*	*25·67*	*73·50*	*·29*	*13·36*	*86·33*
89·20	42·11	18·68	45·85	43·46	10·68	29·71	49·00	21·27

Age and civil condition of females.

236. These figures confirm in the strongest manner the well-known assertion that the girls marry at a much younger age than the boys. Out of every 100 boys of all religions below the age of 10 years rather less than 4 are married, while the number of married girls of the same age is 11. In the next decade the contrast is stronger still; for whereas out of every 100 lads between 10 and 20 years old 71 are still bachelors, only19 girls of the same age are spinsters, 76 are married women, and 4 are widows, so that 80 are, or have been, married. In the third decade the number of married women reaches its maximum, because after 30 years of age the proportion of widows rapidly increases. Accordingly the female population between 20 and 30 years of age shows this remarkable result that in every 100 women of that age there is *only one* who has not been given in marriage; and as years pass on each decade shows a decreasing number of unmarried women. Practically it may be said that almost the whole female population is transferred from the single to the married state before their 20th year. From that period, owing to the almost entire absence of remarriage, they augment in rapidly increasing numbers the ranks of widowhood, till the proportion which was held by the unmarried under the age of 10 years, and was transferred to the married women between 10 and 19, is usurped by the widows of 60 and upwards. It is only, however, among the Hindus that the remarriage of widows is absolutely forbidden; and accordingly, while among Hindu women the proportion of widows between 15 and 25 years of age is nearly 10 per cent of the whole female population of that age, among Mahomedans it is only 5·5, among Buddhists 6, while among Christians and Aborigines the proportion is not more than 3 per cent. In point of fact every member of the female population is given in marriage as soon as she has reached a marriageable age, and the figures representing unmarried females above the age of 15 years are really largely composed of the prostitutes, who form a separate and distinctly definite class in every district of these provinces. The total number of unmarried women in Bengal above the age of 15 is 262,664, as shown in detail in the margin; and though the total number of women who have returned themselves as prostitutes in the census returns is only 51,129, there is no doubt that this figure greatly understates the facts, the true total being probably not less than four times that number.

From 15 to 20 ...	133,324
„ 20 to 30 ...	73,473
„ 30 to 40 ...	29,584
40 and upwards...	26,283
Total ...	262,664

Age and civil condition of males.

237. Among the male population matrimony is neither so universal nor so early, and remarriage is not uncommon. Men are married for the most part between the ages of 20 and 30, about equally during either half of that decade, and do not marry as a rule till they are past 15; for whereas in every 100 lads between 10 and 15 years of age only 18 are married, the number who are married among the lads of 15 to 20 years of age is 41; and this proportion rises in the following decade to more than 76 per cent, showing that nearly one-half of the married men in the community are married between the 20th and 30th year of life. The proportion of married men to others of the same age reaches its maximum, however, in the fourth decade, when it is as high as 90·23 per cent of the male population. Yet the married state never so completely absorbs the male population as it does the women of Bengal. After the 40th year of life the number of men left unmarried is very small, but some few do remain celibate to the end; and the number of men who are bachelors at 60 is nearly six in 400. If the fortunes of 100 males of the same age were followed from the cradle to the grave, it would, of course, be found in the first place that the boys under 10 would contain the largest proportion of bachelors (96·07 per cent); but the maximum proportion of married men would not be reached till the period 30 to 39, and even then it would not wholly absorb the company, inasmuch as 5 of them would still remain unmarried. From this age downwards the influence of remarriage causes the proportion of the married men to dwindle very gently. The proportion of the widowed males never approaches that of the married at any period of life; and whereas 100 women of 60 years and upwards are all widows except 13, the widowers in 100 men of the same age are only 23; while the men whose wives are still alive are 75, or three out of every four, the wives whose husbands are still alive being only 13, or about one in eight.

238. In estimating, however, the true value of the figures on which the foregoing remarks have been based, one important consideration should not be

overlooked, and it is this. There is little doubt that whatever concealment or suppression has taken place has for the most part occurred in respect to women, and to women between the ages of 10 and 20, particularly the latter half of that decade. That these women were almost wholly unmarried girls need hardly be stated, because in that fact lies almost the only motive for concealment. We cannot doubt, therefore, that the number of unmarried women between 10 and 20 has been understated; and the effect has been that, whether they have been altogether omitted or entered as married, the proportion of unmarried women to the female population of that age, and of all ages, has been unduly reduced: while, in so far as these girls have been entered as married, the proportion of married women of that age to the total population of that age has been unfairly augmented. What the number of females is who have thus been omitted is necessarily quite beyond the reach of estimate; and although it is probably extremely small in comparison with the total, yet the fact may have some effect on the figures, and seemed to demand mention.

Probable omission of women.

239. The figures in statement No. 17 above show how the whole population of each age is distributed among the three categories of single, married, and widowed; but it is quite as important to examine the converse of this table, and to ascertain the proportion to the whole number of persons in each civil condition which is borne by the persons at each age, *e.g.* to see what proportion of the whole married population is between the ages of 15 and 19, or what ratio the number of young widows of 20 to 25 years old bears to the whole widowed population. This information will be found in the table below, which gives separately the figures for each principal religion and for all religions:—

Civil condition of the population of a marriageable age.

No. 18.—*Statement showing for the whole Population* 10 *years old and upwards the Proportions of Unmarried, Married, and Widowed in every* 100 *of each age.*

UNMARRIED.

Religions.	Males.								Females.							
	10 to 14.	15 to 19.	20 to 24.	25 to 29.	30 to 39.	40 to 49.	50 to 59.	60 and upwards.	10 to 14.	15 to 19.	20 to 24.	25 to 29.	30 to 39.	40 to 49.	50 to 59.	60 and upwards
Hindus ...	48·52	23·65	12·33	7·45	5·16	1·65	·71	·50	78·26	10·79	3·74	2·44	2·54	1·11	·59	·50
Mahomedans ...	55·62	24·76	10·06	5·34	2·35	·55	·20	·16	83·45	7·46	2·81	1·99	2·17	1·03	·53	·52
Christians ...	32·71	20·67	20·32	12·53	9·68	2·75	·79	·51	58·27	21·97	8·47	3·99	3·88	1·68	·82	·88
Buddhists ...	44·60	27·53	14·23	6·55	4·21	1·61	·55	·68	65·11	21·20	6·19	2·47	2·37	·87	·63	1·11
Aboriginals ...	58·19	23·59	9·82	4·87	2·52	·55	·22	·20	70·84	19·41	4·78	2·01	1·65	·60	·31	·36
All religions	54·12	24·01	11·83	6·69	4·17	1·26	·53	·38	78·88	10·71	3·62	2·28	2·37	1·05	·55	·50

MARRIED.

Religions.	Males.								Females.							
	10 to 14.	15 to 19.	20 to 24.	25 to 29.	30 to 39.	40 to 49.	50 to 59.	60 and upwards.	10 to 14.	15 to 19.	20 to 24.	25 to 29.	30 to 39.	40 to 49.	50 to 59.	60 and upwards.
Hindus ...	5·30	7·01	10·22	14·94	27·26	18·13	10·05	7·05	12·96	14·12	15·93	16·98	22·61	10·89	4·47	1·99
Mahomedans ...	2·40	5·45	9·50	15·72	29·08	18·95	10·37	8·40	13·60	16·39	17·12	17·59	21·21	9·10	3·43	1·51
Christians ...	1·22	3·75	9·06	16·50	31·93	20·41	10·22	6·89	4·09	13·73	18·19	19·20	25·68	11·88	4·95	2·25
Buddhists ...	·99	3·29	8·06	14·71	29·24	19·75	12·74	10·28	5·64	14·50	18·19	16·28	23·76	12·79	5·78	3·03
Aboriginals ...	2·82	5·99	9·81	15·45	30·35	18·19	9·97	7·39	6·10	12·47	16·56	18·31	25·79	12·30	5·68	2·75
All religions	4·37	6·50	9·99	15·20	27·90	18·38	10·15	7·47	12·95	14·79	16·33	17·21	22·27	10·37	4·18	1·86

WIDOWED.

Religions.	Males.								Females.							
	10 to 14.	15 to 19.	20 to 24.	25 to 29.	30 to 39.	40 to 49.	50 to 59.	60 and upwards.	10 to 14.	15 to 19.	20 to 24.	25 to 29.	30 to 39.	40 to 49.	50 to 59.	60 and upwards.
Hindus ...	1·85	2·60	4·16	7·29	17·60	19·86	19·03	27·57	1·36	2·60	4·22	6·94	18·26	21·83	19·09	25·65
Mahomedans ...	1·19	2·41	4·32	8·14	18·21	18·43	17·06	30·19	1·02	1·77	3·12	5·73	17·39	23·43	20·60	26·91
Christians ...	·46	1·26	4·37	7·37	19·35	23·09	19·18	24·88	·32	1·38	3·68	6·24	16·70	20·33	21·23	30·09
Buddhists ...	·09	·75	3·98	8·25	18·78	17·83	19·16	31·13	·52	2·20	4·26	5·99	15·92	20·86	20·01	30·21
Aboriginals ...	·97	3·03	5·26	8·41	18·07	17·56	17·10	29·56	·76	1·98	3·36	5·08	15·04	21·08	21·60	31·66
All religions	1·70	2·57	4·21	7·48	17·74	19·53	18·58	28·15	1·25	2·36	3·89	6·57	17·96	22·27	19·55	26·10

240. It has been stated already that out of the whole male population 16,098,605, or 46·71 per cent, are unmarried, and that of the whole female population 10,331,811, or 29·71 per cent, are spinsters. These figures, however, are calculated to convey an erroneous impression of the true proportion which the unmarried bear to the general population, because the unmarried of either sex necessarily include all the children not yet of a marriageable age. To obtain any adequate appreciation of the true proportions prevailing between the single, the married, and the widowed, the very young must be excluded from consideration, and the calculation based only on the numbers of those who are capable of marriage.

Meaning of "marriage" in Bengal.

241. The word "marriage" has by no means the same meaning in India that it has in European countries. In those countries the ceremony of marriage is usually followed by immediate cohabitation, while in India the term includes, not only cohabitation, but a state of betrothal. Betrothals take place frequently at a considerable period before actual cohabitation follows; but when once the wedding ceremony has been performed the parties are regarded as formally married, and are invariably spoken of as such, the death of either party throwing the other into a state of widowhood, even though they may never have seen each other since the day of the betrothal ceremony. This being the broad meaning of the term, it was obviously impossible and impolitic to push enquiries further, or to endeavour to collect in the census schedules information as to cohabitation: the distinction is one which is not drawn in native speech, and the attempt to set it up would certainly have been unsuccessful. Accordingly the situation was accepted, and in order to prevent ambiguity enumerators were specially directed to return persons as "married" who had gone through the wedding ceremony and were considered to be married, even though they might not actually have gone to live with their husband or wife, as the case might be. Hence the ranks of the married include, without distinction, those who have merely contracted marriage as well as those who have commenced cohabitation. For some reasons the absence of this distinction is to be regretted, as it is evident that in all questions relating to the fruitfulness of marriages the average age of women at their first parturition, and the period of child-bearing, the figures for the "married" cannot be used, as they include much more than those for persons capable of procreation. But, on the other hand, native ideas of the force of the marriage ceremony being what they are, the social aspects of the case are not affected by the question whether or not cohabitation has taken place. The child-wife is as much married at ten as she is at thirty, and the burden of Hindu widowhood presses as heavily on the virgin widow of twelve years as on the widowed grandmother of sixty. The author of the report on the last census of the North-Western Provinces, giving greater weight to actuarial than to social considerations, has taken as the basis of his dissertation on the conjugal condition of the population what is rather the child-bearing than the marriageable age, and has fixed its inferior limit at 15 years. For the reasons stated above, the inferior limit in Bengal has been placed at an earlier age, namely ten years.

242. This age has been taken as the earliest marriageable age on the following grounds. In England it has been established by observations embracing many hundred cases that the earliest age at which, as a rule, girls

become marriageable is fifteen years and a quarter; and though there are to be found in medical works many instances of greater precocity, that may be accepted as the average age of puberty in Northern Europe, and it has accordingly been taken as the starting point of the marriage tables for the population of the United Kingdom. Further to the south, in Greece and the Levant, nature is so precocious that girlhood merges into womanhood at a still earlier age; and the statistics of female development in Bengal show that the comparison which has often been instituted between the climate of Hindustan during a great part of the year and that of Southern Europe is not unreasonable, for tables compiled from reported cases show that in Calcutta the mean age of girls at puberty is twelve years and six months. Such being the case, it might have been assumed that twelve years would have been quite early enough for the point of departure of calculations dealing only with persons of a marriageable age; but, as is well known to all those who have given any attention to the subject, it is imperative on every Hindu father of any respectability that his daughters should be given in marriage before they are capable of becoming mothers. They do not, it is true, reside in their husband's house until that stage has been reached; but the ancient Shastras declare that if a girl attain maturity in her father's house without being married she is "degraded in rank," and the family lies under a reproach. Hence arises the anxiety which every Hindu father feels to dispose of his daughter's hand before there is any possibility of that period arriving: and hence the large numbers of girls who, though below the usual age of puberty, are returned as married. This being the position of affairs, it was obviously impossible to adopt the English starting point of fifteen years as the beginning of the marriageable age, either in the Indian or the European sense. Had there been any groups of years 10 to $12\frac{1}{2}$ and $12\frac{1}{2}$ to 14, it would have been possible to take the number of the population above $12\frac{1}{2}$ years of age as those for whom marriage was more than a name, and to work out calculations accordingly; but in the absence of this information the best course seems to be to take the commencement of the tenth year as the inferior limit of the marriageable age, in the belief that by this means all those will be included who have actually undertaken the duties of matrimony, as well as the great majority of those who are married in the eyes of native society.

The marriageable age.

243. Out of the whole body of bachelors of all religions above ten years of age more than one-half, or 54·12 per cent, are boys between ten and fifteen years old, and about one-quarter belong to the next five years of life, viz. 15 to 20; on the other hand, out of all the spinsters in Bengal of a marriageable age three-fourths, or 78·88 per cent, belong to the earliest period, and more than half of the remainder are between 15 and 20 years of age: so that it may be said that while the latest age for the majority of girls to marry is 15 years, not one-fifth of the boys are married at that age, while only one-fifth more marry before they are 20. Of the married men the greater bulk, or more than one-fourth, are between 30 and 39 years of age; while the rarity of remarriage for women makes the earlier age period, viz. 20 to 29, the most numerously represented by married women, the number at that age being 33·54 in every 100 married women of all ages. Both widowers and widows, as might have been expected, are most numerous in the latest period of life; the proportion of widowers, however, at that age being greater than that of widows, because of the tendency of men to remarry up till a late period of life.

Ages of the single, married, and widowed.

244. An examination of the statement on page 100 will show, moreover, the ages at which members of the different religions marry; and it appears from it that the practice of early marriage is much more frequent among the Hindus than among any other class of the community. The figures given in the margin represent the number of the married in every 100 persons between 10 and 15 years of age in each religion. They show clearly that while Hindus and Mahomedans are almost equally anxious that their daughters should be married on the first opportunity, there is much greater delay on the part of the Mahomedans in giving their sons in marriage. This comparative delay is, however, much more than made up for in after life, and it will be found that

Ages at marriage in different religions.

	Males.	Females.
Hindus	23·35	66·59
Mahomedans	9·90	68·59
Christians	4·19	14·87
Buddhists	3·16	23·03
Aboriginals	9·55	26·12
All Religions ...	18·50	65·74

in all the periods of life after the age of 25 the proportion of Mahomedan married men will exceed that of the married males among the Hindus. The Christian boys marry earlier than the Buddhists; but in the case of girls the proportion is reversed, and the proportion of married girls between 10 and 15 among the Christians is not much than half what it is among the Buddhists and Aboriginals, and about one-fifth what it is among the Hindus and Mahomedans. As the Buddhist men marry so late, there are very few young widowers among them; and, for the contrary reason, the number of juvenile widowers among the Hindus is largest of all. The remarriage of men would seem to be most common among the Buddhists and Mahomedans, for among these classes the largest proportion of widowers is found among the very old; while the reverse is the case with the Christians, who show at each age period between 30 and 60 a proportion of widowers in excess of the provincial mean. Child-widows are most numerous among the Hindus, and aged widows among the Aboriginals.

Civil condition at different ages.

245. The fertility of marriages, or, in other words, the main source of the increase of the population, depends chiefly on the operation of three factors—viz. natural causes, the age of women at marriage, and the duration of married life. The natural causes which tend to encourage or to repress fecundity do not fall so much within the scope of statistical as of medical inquiry, but some facts as to the two other matters can be gathered from the statistics of the present census. In the United Kingdom full information on these points can be obtained from the statistics collected by the Registrar-General, and they show that the average age at which women marry in England is 25·60 years. Hitherto no attempt has been made in Bengal to collect any information on this subject, nor do the figures of the present census supply any direct information. But it has been shown in paragraph 242 that, as a rule, the latest age at which Hindu girls can be married is 12 years; and this conclusion is supported by evidence obtained from the census figures themselves. The female population between the ages of 10 and 20, as will be shown in a subsequent chapter, has been very much understated, and it is certain that the girls of that age bear a much larger proportion to the women of all ages than the census tables show. As this, moreover, is the marrying age, it is equally certain that besides the unmarried girls a considerable number of wives between those ages have been entered in other age periods or omitted altogether. But, taking the figures as they stand in statement No. 17 (page 101), it will be seen that out of 100 women between the ages of 20 and 30 as many as 98·80 were, or had been, married. Between the ages of 10 and 20 the percentage of married and widowed women was 80·76; so that only 18·14 per cent of the women living between 20 and 30 had been married after they reached their twentieth year. At the same time among the girls under 10 years of age on the day of the census 11·51 per cent had been married; and if it be assumed that in previous years girls were married at the different age periods in the same proportions as the present tables show, it is clear that of every 100 women widowed and married 30 years of age 11·51 were married before they were 10 years old, 69·25 were married between 10 and 20 years of age, and the remaining 18·04 were married after their twentieth year. Adopting the same calculation for the males, it will appear that of the men living at 30 years only 79·03 had been married; but of those alive between 30 and 40 nearly as many men were found to have been married as there were married and widowed women at 30, viz. 94·94; and out of the living men of that age period who had been married, only 3·91 were married before they were 10 years old, 24·62 between 10 and 20, 50·50 between 20 and 30, and 15·96 at the comparatively mature age of between 30 and 40,—that is to say, while more than two-thirds of the women marry between 10 and 20, only one-fourth of the men marry at that age, and more than one-half of them marry in the next decade.

Mean age of the people in each civil condition.

246. It seems also that the generality of husbands are about eight years older than their wives. Taking fifteen years as the earliest point at which persons marry in England, the mean age of the married population above that age is 41·80; the married men averaging 43·10, and the married women 40·60 years of age. In Bengal the age at which both men and women marry is so much earlier than in Europe that the mean age of the married is much lower than in England, and is 32·82 for both sexes; the married males having an average age of 36·97 years,

and the married women averaging 28·68 years, which makes each husband on an average eight years older than his wife, while in England the husband is usually only two and a half years older than his wife. In England the mean age of the widowed over 15 years is 59·95 for men and 58·90 for women. In Bengal the mean age of the widowed above 10 years old is practically the same for both sexes; the widowers having an average age of 48·59, and that of the widows being 48·60.

247. There seem to be two reasons why the mean age of the married men is so much higher than that of their wives. In the first place, it is due to the very tender age of many of the wives, and secondly to the remarriage of the men. When a girl becomes a widow she passes out of the ranks of the married once for all, but when a man loses his wife he very frequently marries again, and thus continues among the married till the end of his life. For the same reason, the mean age of the widows, instead of being greater than that of the widowers, as might have been expected, since female adult lives are better than those of male adults, is kept at a low figure, because their numbers are constantly recruited by the widowhood of young wives, who do not remarry as the men do.

Duration of married life.

248. From these figures also can be calculated the average time during which married couples live together. If the mean age of the married of both sexes is 32·82 years, and the mean age of widowers and widows is 48·59 years, the difference, or 15·77 years, is the average duration of married life. In England, where marriages take place much later in life, the tendency towards a shorter period of married life which this circumstance would produce is counteracted by the fact that there is usually not so much difference between the ages of husband and wife, and therefore not so much chance of the wife becoming a widow early, so that the average length of time which passes before marriage is dissolved by the death of one of the parties is 15·15 years.

Civil condition of the population under 10 years of age.

249. In the preceding paragraphs the conjugal condition of the population of a marriageable age has been discussed on the assumption that the marriageable age commences at 10 years, but it is impossible to leave the question without a brief examination of the civil condition of the population less than 10 years of age who were excluded by this assumption. The children under ten years old number altogether 20,558,029, of whom 10,286,444 are boys and 10,271,585 are girls. In Table No. VI no figures are given for any period intermediate between the first and the tenth year of life, and therefore there is nothing in that table to show how many of the children in each condition of life are in the first, and how many in the second half of the decade. Early as the children of natives are given in marriage, however, it would appear that betrothals, even of female children, below the age of five years are almost unheard of. Accordingly it may be assumed that no marriages take place during the first quinquennial period, and that all the children under 10 years of age returned as married and widowed are between that age and the fifth year. If this be conceded, the figures in Table VII for the period "5 to 9" may be accepted as including all the married and widowed under ten years old, and may be used to form the basis of the calculation in the following abstract:—

No. 19.—*Statement showing, for the Children from Five to Nine Years of Age, the Proportion borne by the Married and Widowed to every* 100 *Children of that Age.*

Religions.	Males.		Females.	
	Married.	Widowed.	Married.	Widowed.
Hindus	10·31	·29	27·12	1·14
Mahomedans	2·26	·06	16·03	·70
Christians	1·40	·02	2·14	·17
Buddhists	·83	·04	2·96	·18
Aboriginals	2·27	·04	4·44	·26
All Religions ...	7·32	·20	22·56	·96

250. It is impossible to place in a clearer light than this table does the great prevalence of infantile betrothals, especially those of girls among the two great classes of which the population of Bengal is mainly composed. The figures for all religions include those for Christians and Buddhists, whose children

notoriously marry at a less early age; yet the foregoing table shows that in the whole population out of every 100 boys beween five and ten years old more than seven have been married, while in the same number of girls of the same age no less than 23, or nearly one in four, have been given in marriage. Surprising as these figures are, however, they are as nothing to those which represent the conjugal condition of Hindu children of this age; for among that people more than 10 boys in every 100 between five and ten years old are bridegrooms, while of the girls 28 in 100, or more than one in four, are wives or widows at an age when, if they were in Europe, they would be in the nursery or the infant school. Mahomedans, it will be seen, do not marry their children nearly so young, for only two boys and sixteen girls in 100 of either sex have been married at this immature age. Buddhist and Christian children are married much later; but the customs of the Aboriginals and the Mahomedans in respect of the marriage of their sons would seem to be exactly similar. This similarity, however, does not extend to the marriage of girls among the Aboriginals; for whereas in every 100 Mahomedan girls of this age 16 are married, the number among the Aboriginals is just one-fourth of that quantity. These statistics, it will be observed, fully bear out the conclusions stated in paragraph 244 above.

251. So large, too, are the actual numbers of the married between five and ten years old that they form a very appreciable proportion of the whole company of the married of all ages. The figures in the margin show that out of 100 married Hindu males of all ages no less than three are children less than ten years old, while among the Mahomedans there would not be one in 100. On the other hand, in every 100 married Hindu females of all ages the number of girls between five and ten would be nearly eight; while in a similar number of Mahomedans the number would be five. Thus there are more than thrice as many child-bridegrooms among the Hindus than among the Mahomedans, while the difference in the case of girls is only 2 per cent in favour of the Hindus.

No. 20.—Statement showing the Percentage on the Whole Married Population borne by the Married between Five and Ten years old.

	Males.	Females.
Hindus	3·04	7·60
Mahomedans	·79	5·07
ALL RELIGIONS ...	2·31	6·65

252. These facts have an important bearing on the social condition of the people, which should not be overlooked. A preponderance of age in favour of the husband produces a proportionate excess of male births. Late marriages tend to increase the number of orphan children; and though this is not an evil to which India is liable, it is much exposed to one of little less importance, viz. the excess of widows and fatherless children, which is the natural outcome of that great disparity of age between the husband and wife which is observed in almost every union in Bengal.

Extent of polygamy.

253. It might have been supposed that the census figures would yield some information as to the extent to which polygamy prevails in Bengal; and it was at one time suggested that the column in the census schedules for "civil condition" should be followed by one for the collection of details regarding each person's "relationship to the head of the house." Eventually, however, this column was left out of the schedule for very good reasons. Had it been filled up a great deal of interesting information on this subject, as well as much on the size of families and of households, might have been collected; but, as it is, nothing can be elicited from the existing census figures. If emigration and immigration did not occur, and if the whole population of the province were strictly monogamous, it is obvious that the numbers of husbands and of wives would be exactly equal. In point of fact neither of these conditions exists; and the result of the conflicting operation of various factors is, that whereas the number of married men in Bengal is 16,991,966, the number of married women is nearly 50,000 greater, being 17,040,095. These figures give in the whole population of all religions 1,002 wives to every 1,000 husbands—a margin much too small to justify any theory of general or widespread polygamy. As is well known, the founder of the Mussulman religion inculcated polygamy both by example and precept, and his successors have not been slow to follow the august precedent. Among Hindus a plurality of wives is not permitted by the canons of their faith, except for sound and good reasons; but in practice a second marriage is not unfrequently contracted, especially among the wealthier classes, the cost of

the ceremony and the extra expense of an enlarged household acting as formidable deterrents in the case of the poor. Christians, Buddhists, and the Aboriginal tribes are almost entirely monogamous. Accordingly if we leave these less numerous communities out of consideration, and examine the figures for the two great religions of India, we shall find a remarkable diversity between them.

Non-existent among Hindus.

254. Among the Hindus there is a large excess of 127,819 in favour of married men, their numbers being 11,436,455 to 11,308,636, married women being in the ratio of only 988 wives to 1,000 husbands. A large proportion of this excess is no doubt due to the immigration of married Hindu males from beyond the frontier. The excess of male over female immigrants of all religions is 136,527; and if it be borne in mind that these are necessarily almost all adults, and therefore married, and that the provinces which march with Bengal have a population almost entirely Hindu, the excess of married Hindu males is easily accounted for.

Very rare among Mahomedans.

255. Among the Mahomedans, however, these proportions are completely reversed; their wives number 5,254,304 as against 5,085,423 Mahomedan husbands, giving a proportion of 1,033 married women to every 1,000 married men. These figures support the statement that polygamy does exist among the followers of Islam; but that it is far from universal among them, the following facts will show. The districts in which Mahomedans form the main element in the population, and where they are sufficiently numerous to enable general conclusions to be drawn from the statistics they provide, are the following—viz. Bogra (80·80 per cent), Rajshahye (78·41 per cent), Noakholly (74·15 per cent), Pubna (72·41 per cent), Chittagong (70·82 per cent), Mymensingh (66·79 per cent), Backergunge (66·68 per cent), Tipperah (66·32 per cent), Rungpore (60·99 per cent), Dacca (59·09 per cent), and Furreedpore (59·75 per cent). In every one of these districts except Backergunge the Mahomedan population shows more married women than married men, the proportion of wives being as follows to 1,000 husbands:—

Chittagong	1,296	Rajshahye	1,046
Noakholly	1,081	Pubna	1,040
Dacca	1,079	Rungpore	1,029
Furreedpore	1,055	Bogra	1,011
Mymensingh	1,046	Tipperah	1,002

256. It will be observed that the first four districts, which give the highest proportion of wives to husbands, are all situated on the Eastern Bengal littoral, and are in fact those which supply Mahomedan boatmen and sailors to the whole mercantile marine of the Bay of Bengal, since caste rules make a seafaring life impossible for Hindus. As most of these men are adults and married, many thousand Mahomedans were for this reason absent from their homes on the night of the census, and the proportion of married Mahomedan women to married Mahomedan men was thus forced up to an unnatural height in the districts from which they came. This phenomenon is particularly noticeable in the case of Chittagong, whose sailors are found in all parts of the Indian seas, and which also suffers from a periodical depletion of its adult males, thousands of whom, as elsewere explained, migrate in the winter season into Arrakan and Burmah in search of work. For all those absentees who were at sea or in other provinces of the empire on the night of the census information as to birthplace is not available, inasmuch as it was not collected in detail of districts; but Tables X and XI in Appendix A give full information as to the birthplace of all persons found within the limits of Bengal. From these tables it would appear that all the districts named above have large numbers of their natives found in other parts of Bengal, besides those at sea or in other parts of India: thus the number of natives of Furreedpore found elsewere in Bengal amounts to 5·37 per cent of all the persons born in the Furreedpore district; for Dacca the proportion is 4·93 per cent; for Noakholly it is 2·37 per cent; and for Chittagong 1·15 per cent. These last two districts, however, are those from which the sailors are chiefly drawn, so that, for reasons already stated, the percentages just quoted do not represent the actual proportion of absentees. For more trustworthy data, therefore, as to the proportion between Mahomedan husbands and wives we must look to districts where emigration is not so common, such as those of the Rajshahye Division

and the more inland districts of the delta. It will be seen that if we leave out the four districts already mentioned, the excess of wives to 1,000 husbands ranges from 46 in Mymensingh and Rajshahye to 2 only in Tipperah; and the figures in Chapter X below show that with the exception of Mymensingh these districts stand in almost the same order in respect to emigration as they do in respect to the excess of Mahomedan wives, as the following abstract will prove :—

District.	Number of wives to 1,000 husbands.	Percentage of emigrants.
Mymensingh	1,046	1·50
Rajshahye	1,046	3·33
Pubna	1,040	4·66
Rungpore	1,029	2·78
Bogra	1,011	2·39
Tipperah	1,002	1·74

Bogra and Rajshahye are districts which are almost exclusively inhabited by Mahomedans. The tables showing birthplace do not distinguish the population by religion; but where the population of the district is almost wholly Mahomedan, it is fair to assume that its emigrants should be mainly of that faith. The same tables, however, do show the sexes of the emigrants; and it is important to note that the absentees from the two districts in question are almost equally divided among the sexes, so that we may infer that the losses of husbands and wives by emigration cancel each other, and that the figures for husbands and wives within each of these districts represent very nearly the true conjugal condition of the Mahomedan population it contains. If this be granted, the conclusion is inevitable that polygamy, though allowable, is practised only to a very small extent by the Mussulman population of Bengal, since in Rajshahye only 46 men in 1,000 have a second wife, while in Bogra the number is only 11 in 1,000, or 1 per cent.

CHAPTER VIII.

STATISTICS OF RELIGION, SEX, AND AGE.

(Table No. VII, pages 158 to 238s of Appendix B, and Table No. XXV, pages 741 to 754, Appendix C.)

Introduction.

257. These tables give the ages of the whole population divided into seventeen age periods. The connection between the ages and the sex of the population in each district is so intimate, and the figures for the one class of facts are so often necessary to explain those for the other, that the two statistics cannot be dissociated and must be considered together. For the first five years of life the figures for each year are shown separately. After that the periods are quinquennial, until the age of 60 years is reached, when all persons are grouped together as "60 years and upwards." In every case the age given is that on the last birthday, so that all infants who have not yet reached the first anniversary of their birth are shown as "under 1;" the period "5 to 9" represents those who have completed five years of life, but have not arrived at the tenth anniversary of their birthday, and so on. Throughout these tables, as in others, males and females are separately shown; and in addition to the first part of Table VII, showing the ages of the whole population irrespective of their nationality or religion, a succession of parts of the same table, divided into the same age periods, shows the ages of the persons following each of the religions which have already been mentioned in treating of Table III.

258. The statement below reproduces in a compendious form the information regarding the ages of the entire population, without reference to their religious belief:—

No. 21.—Statement showing the Number of Persons enumerated at each Period of Life.

Ages.	Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
Under one year ...	*798,965*	812,484	1,611,449
1	*810,550*	868,954	1,679,504
2	*1,009,159*	1,120,875	2,130,034
3	*1,212,248*	1,336,209	2,548,457
4	*1,103,953*	1,116,189	2,220,142
Total 0 to 4 ...	*4,934,075*	5,254,711	10,189,586
5 to 9	*5,363,192*	5,028,395	10,391,887
10 to 14	*3,930,782*	3,137,523	7,068,305
15 to 19	*2,610,831*	2,662,376	5,273,207
20 to 24	*2,454,235*	2,932,274	5,386,509
25 to 29	*3,044,629*	3,253,313	6,297,942
30 to 34	*2,966,738*	2,979,681	5,946,419
35 to 39	*2,171,889*	1,917,414	4,089,303
40 to 44	*2,182,483*	2,204,086	4,386,569
45 to 49	*1,217,541*	1,099,254	2,316,795
50 to 54	*1,410,656*	1,534,379	2,945,035
55 to 59	*562,919*	576,144	1,139,063
60 and upwards ..	*1,649,504*	2,223,356	3,872,860
Total ...	*34,500,574*	34,802,906	69,303,480
Unspecified ...	*125,017*	108,364	233,381
Grand Total ...	34,625,591	34,911,270	69,536,861

259. The first points that cannot fail to strike the observer in examining this statement are (1) the progressive increase in the number of children living at each of the first four years of life; (2) the great fluctuations which occur between the numbers of the population in each quinquennial period; and (3) the excess of female over male children. All these facts are abnormal, and demand a detailed investigation, which will be much facilitated by a reference to the diagram which accompanies this chapter. In this diagram the age periods are represented by vertical spaces of equal dimensions, while the numbers of the population are shown against each of a series of horizontal lines advancing at intervals of 100,000 persons from 0 to 3,000,000, which is believed to be the average number of infants born annually in Bengal. To find the number of persons at any given age, it is only necessary to note where the line of decrease of life crosses the centre of the age period in question. The number on the left hand, opposite the horizontal line, where the intersection takes place, represents the number of persons living of the given age. Thus the centre of the period 30 to 34 is touched by the life line upon the horizontal line, opposite to which are written the figures 1,200,000: that, therefore, is the number of persons of both sexes living on the census night between the ages of 30 and 34.

Ages of the children.

260. The progressive increase in the numbers attributed to each year of infant life up to the fourth year is not susceptible of any very obvious explanation, as it is due to a combination of circumstances, all of which are not capable of direct proof. It is hardly necessary to point out that during a series of average years, and putting aside all abnormal causes tending to check the annual replenishment of the population, such as an unusually low birth-rate or an unusually heavy infant death-rate, of all the children living on a certain date, the number under one year of age will be larger than those who have already lived through one year; the number of those of one year of age will outnumber those of two years of age, and so on,—inasmuch as while the actual number of children born in any year cannot by any means be subsequently increased, their numbers are reduced by death every month that passes. It is true that the death-rate of children under one year of age is everywhere much higher than that of children in subsequent years of life, but this truth does not affect the argument, because although the death-rate, *i.e.* the proportion of deaths to living children of the same age, may be greatly lowered in subsequent years, it is impossible that the number of children born in any one year should ever be absolutely increased. The natural condition of affairs is therefore a sudden fall from the number of births to the number of children alive under one year of age owing to the heavy infant mortality already stated, and a decrease from that point, more or less gradual, in proportion to the relative death-rate of each age period. In Bengal, however, the figures returned for each year of infant life show a condition of things quite different from that just described. Here the children of 3 years of age are the most numerous, then come those of 4 years, and then, in succession, those of 2 years and 1 year, leaving the first 12 months of life, which should be the most numerously represented, with a smaller population than any other of the first five equal periods. In fact the normal condition of things for the first three years of life appears to be exactly reversed.

261. The first suspicion that will arise in the mind of the critic will doubtless be that the apparent error has been caused by some blunder on the part of the compiling clerks, and that by some monstrous mistake the number of children in each year of life has been completely misrepresented. But apart from the inherent improbability of such a blunder escaping immediate detection, the figures themselves carry with them their own evidence of fidelity and honesty, for the phenomenon is observable in every district and among the followers of every religion in Bengal, the truth being most nearly attained in the most advanced districts and among the best educated classes. Such an error, moreover, could only be due to deliberate falsification by the compiling establishment; and this theory receives its deathblow if it is reflected that there could have been no possible motive for such an act, and that if there had been any motive, the figures were compiled in four separate Offices hundreds of miles apart, so that unity of purpose was quite impossible. There can, therefore, be no doubt that the compilation presents with accuracy a summary of the entries made by the enumerators; and it only remains to discover how it was that such extraordinary figures were returned by them.

262. It seems clear that the phenomenon is due to three causes, which operated with varying degrees of force. The number of children of the years in question alive on the census day is as follows:—

2,220,142	children,	4	years	old,	born	in	...	1876
2,518,457	„	3	„	„		...	...	1877
2,130,034	„	2	„	„		...	...	1878
1,679,504	„	1	„	„		...	...	1879
1,611,449	„	under	year	„		...	...	1880

Explanation of the abnormal figures.

263. If these figures are correct, there must have been circumstances, such as an unusually high birth-rate, or an abnormally low death-rate, or both combined, operating generally during the years 1877, 1876, and in a less degree in 1878, to account for the large number of survivors of infants born in those years, while these conditions must have been completely reversed in 1880, and partly so in 1879. Statisticians have long since shown that even in a country like India, where marriage is universal, the number of marriages increases in direct proportion to the prosperity of the people, the increase of wealth, and the cheapness of living; and the conclusion is inevitable that in prosperous times not only is the number of marriages advanced, but their fruitfulness is augmented; while at the same time the conditions of life being more favourable, healthier infants are produced, who enjoy during the most critical period of their existence a better chance of surviving. In putting forward this argument, it has not been forgotten that marriages in India are made at so early an age that the considerations just stated can have no effect on the production of offspring till some years after the actual ceremony has been performed; but the conditions of life which in other countries provoke or deter marriage have the same effect in India on the cohabitation of persons who have long since been lawfully married, and in the following remarks actual cohabitation is implied when the word 'marriage' is used. A study of the figures given above would therefore lead to the conclusion that in 1875 and 1876 there were more marriages than usual, and that the infants born in 1876 and 1877 were both more numerous and more healthy than in ordinary years, while on the other hand it would seem that in the years 1879 and 1880 marriages were less frequent, the people less fruitful, and the infant mortality greater, than in the few previous years. Both these conclusions are borne out by the facts.

Effect of the years on the birth-rate.

264. The year 1876 was one of great and general prosperity. The scarcity of 1874 had been followed in 1875 by sufficient crops, the winter crops indeed being described as exceptionally good. In 1876 the rainfall was seasonable and plentiful, and the harvest was good almost everywhere. The demand for food-grains to supply the exigencies of Bombay kept up the market, and cultivators were thus enabled to obtain high prices for full crops—a combination of conditions unhappily too rare. In the matter of the public health also the year 1876 was exceptionally favoured. The organisation now existing in Bengal for the public registration of births and deaths is unfortunately so faulty—especially was it so before the year under consideration—and the evidence it affords so dubious and incomplete, that but little confidence can be placed in the conclusions which it suggests. But the returns of jail mortality have been very carefully kept for years, and referring as they do to a large number of persons, drawn from the classes which form the bulk of the population, they provide a valuable body of evidence as to the general healthiness or unhealthiness of any year to which they refer. A glance at the accompanying table will show that in no year since returns began to be kept has the death-rate been so low as it was in 1876; and in so much as the jail mortality, disturbing influences apart, although much higher than that of the free population, is a very fair index to the comparative sickliness or otherwise of one season with another, the

evidence of the following figures in favour of the year 1876 cannot be gainsaid:—

No. 22.—Statement showing the Deaths per Mille of the Jail Population during 18 *years.*

Years.	Deaths per mille.	Years.	Deaths per mille.
1863	94·8	1873	47·0
1864	61·8	1874	54·0
1865	54·5	1875	49·0
1866	107·0	1876	37·3
1867	58·0	1877	48·8
1868	51·0	1878	69·1
1869	51·1	1879	94·8
1870	45·0	1880	63·5
1871	40·0		
1872	52·0		

265. The year 1875 was but little less favourable to the birth and survival of infants. As already mentioned, it was a year of good harvests, and it immediately succeeded that of the scarcity in Behar and other parts of Bengal, which, if it did not cause a loss of life, must certainly have brought about not only a decrease in the number of marriages, but also a diminution of the vital powers of the married. If then the births in 1875 were unusually numerous, the phenomenon only affords another argument in favour of the Malthusian doctrine that a famine is followed as a natural consequence by a rebound which goes far to compensate for the mortality which the famine has caused.

266. Another set of conditions affecting infant life remains to be stated. It is well known that a high temperature is as injurious as a low temperature is favourable to children during the first twelve months of life. The mortality of children under one year of age is much smaller in northern than in southern Europe; and it is an observed fact that in the same country years of unusual heat are marked by increased rates of infant mortality, while a cool season goes hand in hand with a low infantile death-rate. The new marriages of 1875 and 1876, and the increased vitality of the married population in those years, bore their first fruit in the years 1876, 1877, and 1878; and it so happens that, taking Bengal as a whole, those were years of exceptionally low temperature, especially during the months of September, October, and November, when, as will be subsequently shown, births are more frequent than at any other period of the year.

And on the death-rate.

267. Turning, however, to the other side of the picture, it remains to examine how the circumstances of the years 1879 and 1880 prejudicially affected the rates of births and infant mortality in those years. The children born in 1880, and therefore under one year of age at the beginning of 1881, instead of being more numerous, are fewer in number than those of any other years in the quinquennial period 1875-80; and the inference is that in 1880 and in 1879 there must have been causes at work to reduce the births or to increase the number of deaths. What those causes were may be inferred from what has been said above. In the first place the years 1879 and 1880, particularly the former, were exceptionally unhealthy. The table given in paragraph 264 above shows that the jail mortality that year touched a higher figure than it has ever reached since the famine year 1866; and the Inspector-General of Jails, in treating of the fact, points out that not only was the mortality high among the jail population, but that the year was to the common knowledge, and by general repute, one of much sickness. Cholera was unusually prevalent, and it is admitted by experts that in any period marked by unusual cholera mortality a low state of the general health is almost invariably observed.

Thus while death was busy with the infants of 1879, it also carried off those persons who might have been the parents of other infants in 1880, and thus directly checked the increase of the population—an indirect check being further supplied by disease, which impaired the productive powers of many whom death had spared. This, then, is the first suggested explanation of the unexpected variations between the surviving population of each of the first five years of life, viz. that while the births in 1876 and 1877 were probably more numerous than usual, owing to the general prosperity of the people during the two preceding years, the survivals were also comparatively large owing to the existence of conditions favourable to infant life. On the other hand, the births in 1879 and 1880 were probably fewer, and the infant mortality greater, than usual, especially in the latter year, because the unhealthiness of 1879 checked the births, both directly and indirectly, and because the fewer children who were born were exposed to a greater mortality.

"Months" may have been mistaken for "years."

268. The second explanation that I have to suggest is a less obvious one. In the instructions to enumerators which accompanied each book of schedules they were directed, when making any entry for a child under one year of age, to enter in figures the age in months, placing the word 'months' in brackets after the figures. No doubt these orders were in theory those best calculated to secure the greatest possible accuracy of detail, but I fear that in practice some confusion has resulted. It seems likely that in some cases the enumerators omitted to insert the word 'months,' so that the figures representing the age would then appear as *years* of life; and it is possible that in some few cases the compiling clerks may have made the same blunder, and, overlooking the word 'months,' have entered the age in years. It will of course be argued that if this theory be worth anything, the improper increase gained by other ages at the expense of the first year would be pretty equally distributed over the first 12 years of life, since there are 12 months in the year; but it is to be remembered that children of 9, 10, or 11 months would nearly always be roughly described as of a year old, while investigation has shown that the majority of children are born in those months which lie at an interval of 2, 3, and 4 months from the date of the census enumeration, thus corresponding with the second, third, and fourth years of life, in which the surviving children are said to be most numerous.

269. It should be borne in mind that although the night of the final enumeration was the 17th of February 1881, yet almost all the entries were made about the middle of January, during the preliminary enumeration, so that the second, third, and fourth months from the date of entry would be the first half of December, the second fortnight of September, and the months of October and November. Under Act IV of 1873 the registration of births in certain selected areas, both urban and rural, was made compulsory. But in spite of the provisions of the law and the efforts of local officers the registration of births continued to be so obviously below the truth that in the year 1878 the Government of Bengal abandoned the work in rural areas and directed redoubled attention to the proper administration of the Act in the urban circles, which included all the large municipalities in these provinces. Since that date greater accuracy is believed to have been secured, and the statistics are probably fairly reliable as far as they go. Taking, then, the figures of the Sanitary Commissioner for the years 1878 to 1881 inclusive, it appears that out of 100 children born in the area under observation the number born in each month is as follows:—

October	... 9·86	August	... 8·30
November	... 9·72	February	... 7·90
December	... 9·52	April	... 7·55
September	... 9·27	July	... 7·23
January	... 8·95	May	... 6·79
March	... 8·35	June	... 6·48

—that is to say, the months of October, November, December, and September are in that order those in which most births are registered, being the months which stand third, second, first, and fourth in distance from the date of enumeration, and thus corresponding exactly to the years of life in which the infant

population is said to be most numerous. The results given by birth registration in Calcutta for the last ten years are almost the same, the period of greatest births, probably from climatic influence, being thrown a little later in the year, so that the order of the months, arranged according to the frequency of reported births, is November, October, December, September. Lastly, it should be observed that these results are in complete accordance with the probable law of nature, that conceptions should be most numerous when the vitality of the parents is at its greatest,—that is to say, during the bracing and invigorating cold of an Indian winter. But though this explanation accounts for some of the variation, I am inclined to believe that it accounts for very little. During the process of compilation I examined hundreds of books of schedules, and cannot recollect to have found any cases where the 'month' was obviously omitted by the enumerator or ignored by the carelessness of the compilers; and I am convinced that to this cause not more than 1 or 2 per cent of the variations can be attributed.

Inaccuracy of description.

270. The third explanation of the variations lies in the want of accuracy, alluded to below, which the uneducated natives of India display in speaking of time or space. When it was decided that each of the first five years of infant life should be shown in detail, much stress was laid on the argument that every mother knows the age of her young children, and it was urged that these figures above all must be absolutely correct. But this argument did not take sufficiently into account the inaccuracy of the ignorant mind, and expected that maternal tenderness would supply the deficiencies of an untrained memory. Just as in speaking of later periods of life the tendency of the native is to use round numbers, with a preference for describing the age of all adults as 25, so the most common phrase for expressing the age of a child is "three or four years." To this peculiarity I attribute a twofold operation, for I believe that it has caused the figures for the third and fourth year to be unduly enlarged at the expense not only of the population of one and two years of age, but of a certain number of children whose ages were really between five and nine years; and it seems likely that this cause produces a very large part of the error observed.

271. To recapitulate: it seems that although experience would lead us to anticipate a gradual and progressive decrease in the numbers of the infant population at each year of life, yet that the variations reported are not so entirely wrong as they would seem at first sight to be. Real grounds exist for believing that during the years for which the survivors are most numerous exceptional circumstances caused a high birth-rate and a low infantile death-rate, while during the years for which the survivors are unexpectedly few an opposite set of conditions was in force. Still this explanation does not account for the whole of the fluctuations, and it is likely that they are largely due to the inaccuracy of native replies as to the ages of their children, and partly also, though to a very small extent, to errors of the enumerators or compilers in showing in terms of years the children whose ages should have been described in months.

Variations between figures for other age periods.

272. Great variations in the numbers for each age period after the first few years of infant life were anticipated from the first. They are intelligible to all persons conversant with the natives of Bengal, and are capable of a very simple explanation. The fact is that the vast majority of the population of India have no knowledge of their true age. The experience of every officer in the country will bear out the assertion that nine out of ten adults are unable to give their age correctly within ten years, and that the error is frequently wider than that. Much prominence has from time to time been given to the argument that every respectable Hindu, especially the males, has his horoscope cast at birth, and that the dates entered in this carefully preserved document are reliable; but it should be remembered that this is only the case among the wealthier and superior classes, who form but a small part of the whole population, and that even among them the fact that a man's nativity has been cast is no guarantee for the accuracy of his unaided memory. It is the experience of all persons who have to deal with age statistics, and has been demonstrated by the census returns of European as well as Asiatic countries, that in the absence of exact knowledge, the nearest round number is always given. The figures of the present census of Bengal form no exception to the general rule; and thus it comes to pass that instead of there being a progressive decline, more or less gradual, from each age period to the next, those age periods which contain the round numbers—*i.e.* the first half of

each decade—claim a larger proportion of the population than those which represent the years from 5 to 9 in each preceding group of ten years. Thus the population between 20 and 25 is more numerous than that living between 15 and 19, notoriously one of the most healthy periods of life; those living between 40 and 44 are more numerous than those between 35 and 39; and those between 50 and 54 far outnumber those between 45 and 49. Lastly, if further proof were needed of this infirmity of the native mind, it could be found in the apparently paradoxical fact that the persons between 25 and 29 largely exceed those whose age is between 20 and 24 years. At first sight this phenomenon would seem to be inconsistent with the theory just stated of the popularity of the round number; but the explanation is that "25 years," the quarter century, is perhaps the most common answer given by an uneducated native if asked what his age is.

Proportions in each quinquennial period.

273. The following table of percentages shows almost as clearly as the diagram already referred to the variations which are reported not only in each year of infant life, but also in the quinquennial periods of adult life. Abandoning the single years of infant life, and taking the figures as they stand in a succession of quinquennial groups, it will be seen that the period which contains the largest proportion of survivors to the whole population is the second—5 to 9 years, which exceeds the first by a little more than a quarter per cent. From this period the numbers fall to the last; and for the reasons stated in paragraph 272 above, the percentages are disturbed just as the actual population figures have been.

No. 23.—Statement showing for Each Sex and for Both Sexes the Number of Persons in each 100 of the Population of Either Sex and of Both Sexes who belong to each of the Age Periods stated.

Ages.	Population		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
Under one year ...	2·31	2·33	2·32
1	2·34	2·50	2·42
2	2·92	3·22	3·07
3	3·51	3·83	3·67
4	3·19	3·21	3·20
Total 0 *to* 4 ...	14·30	15·09	14·70
5 to 9	15·54	14·44	14·99
10 to 14	11·39	9·01	10·19
15 to 19	7·56	7·64	7·60
20 to 24	7·11	8·42	7·77
25 to 29	8·82	9·34	9·08
30 to 34	8·59	8·57	8·58
35 to 39	6·29	5·50	5·90
40 to 44	6·32	6·33	6·32
45 to 49	3·52	3·15	3·34
50 to 54	4·08	4·40	4·24
55 to 59	1·63	1·65	1·64
60 and upwards ...	4·78	6·38	5·58
Total ...	49·78	50·21	99·99

Going more into detail, this statement and that on page 111 (No. 21) show that in all Bengal the number of infants of both sexes under 5 years of age is 10,189,586, or 14·70 per cent; while those five years older, viz. between 5 and 10 years of age, are slightly more numerous, being 10,391,887, or 14·99 per cent of the whole. This excess is anomalous, but susceptible of explanation, which will be given below. During the period between 10 and 14 years the numbers are 7,068,305 or 10·19 of the whole, while the

next period, 15—19, which is that of budding manhood, supplies 5,273,207, or 7·60 per cent of the whole total. So far the variations have not been considerable, though the drop from 14·99 to 10·19, being one of nearly 5 per cent, is excessive, and can be shown to be unreal. From the beginning of the fifth quinquennial period, however, the variations begin to be excessive, for the reasons given in paragraph 272 above. Omitting the exceptional period 25 to 29, it will be seen that the numbers in the first half of each decade not only greatly exceed the numbers in the second half of the same decade, but also the numbers in the second half of that which precedes it. Thus, while the persons returned between 40 and 44 amount to 4,386,569, or 6·32 per cent of the whole, those between 35 and 39 are only 4,089,303, or 5·90 per cent, and those between 45 and 49 are 2,316,795, or only 3·34 per cent. The same features reappear in the next decade, for the persons living in the first quinquenniad of the second half century are 2,945,035, or 4·24 per cent of the whole, thus largely outnumbering both those of the preceding quinquenniad 2,316,795, or 3·34 per cent, and those of the succeeding five-year period 1,139,063, or 1·64 per cent.

274. There can be no reasonable doubt that this is the true explanation of the variations noticed; and while the phenomenon is to be deplored, inasmuch as it supplies one of the reasons why it is impossible to prepare trustworthy life tables for the population of these provinces, it affords an incidental proof of the fidelity with which the original entries have been compiled. So far as can be seen, moreover, the same facts are observable in other provinces of the empire. In the North-Western Provinces, in the Punjab, Bombay, and Madras, the variations, if not so violent in degree, are similar in kind to those in Bengal; and therefore, in so far as these corrections depart from the probable facts, are the figures for the quinquennial periods erroneous.

Corrected percentages.

275. But though it may be impossible to prepare perfectly trustworthy life tables, since the operation requires absolutely accurate enumerations at two different times, and in the interim an exact registration of births and deaths, with the ages at death, yet something may be done to suggest approximately the numbers and percentage of the population at each quinquennial period. The following table therefore is given as an attempt to furnish something nearer the truth than the figures which have been obtained by actual compilation from the returns; and to facilitate an appreciation of the Bengal figures, the percentages of the population in Great Britain and Ireland at similar ages are given in juxtaposition with those for these provinces. Corresponding to these totals for both sexes a probable line of life has been drawn in the diagram at the end of the present chapter, which is intended to indicate graphically the facts set forth in the accompanying table:—

No. 24.—Statement showing the Percentages on the Total Population of the Population at each Age Period in Great Britain and Ireland, together with the Corrected Numbers and Percentage of the Population in Bengal.

Ages.	Percentage.				Population.	
	Great Britain.	Ireland.	Bengal (actual).	Bengal (probable).	Bengal (actual).	Bengal (probable).
0 to 4	13·52	12·08	14·70	*14*	10,189,586	*9,702,487*
5 to 9	11·93	11·66	14·99	*13*	10,391,887	*9,009,452*
10 to 14	10·72	11·64	10·19	*11·*	7,068,305	*7,623,382*
15 to 19	9·69	6·82	7·60	*9·5*	5,273,207	*6,583,830*
20 to 24	8·81	8·46	7·77	*9*	5,386,509	*6,237,313*
25 to 29	7·80	6·97	9·08	*8·5*	6,297,942	*5,890,795*
30 to 34	6·82	6·57	8·52	*7·5*	5,946,419	*5,197,761*
35 to 39	5·87	4·70	5·90	*6·5*	4,089,303	*4,504,726*
40 to 44	5·39	5·35	6·32	*5·5*	4,386,569	*3,811,691*
45 to 49	4·60	3·62	3·34	*4*	2,316,795	*2,772,139*
50 to 54	4·14	5·12	4·24	*3·5*	2,945,035	*2,425,621*
55 to 59	3·15	3·13	1·64	*3*	1,139,063	*2,079,104*
60 and upwards	7·60	8·87	·58	*5*	3,872,860	*3,465,174*

Proportion of persons of the different religions in each period.

276. Hitherto only the whole population of all religions has been the subject of investigation; but if the figures for the different religions be examined, the conclusions stated in the foregoing paragraphs obtain remarkable confirmation. In the following table the religions examined are those of the Hindus, Mahomedans, Christians, and Aboriginals. Of the remainder, the greater part are followed by too few persons to make an examination of their figures advantageous: they are members of alien races, and therefore, in addition to their being very few in number, their age and sex statistics are abnormal. Of the 155,809 Buddhists returned in the schedules, 73,970, or nearly one-half, were found in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, in the enumeration of which district no information as to age was asked for: consequently any age statistics for the Buddhists would only refer to half the population of that religion, and would be of little value. On the other hand, the figures for the various Aboriginal tribes have been shown together, as it is believed that no useful purpose can be served by separating them, inasmuch as the difference which exists in the religions, manners, or habits of life of these non-Aryan peoples, whether they inhabit the plateau of Chota Nagpore or the hills dividing Bengal from Arrakan, is not so great as to affect the conditions under which they live, the proportions of the sexes among them, the fruitfulness of their women, or the mortality which carries them off. With respect to the Christians, it should not be forgotten that out of the total of 128,135 as many as 67 per cent, or 86,306 persons in all, are natives of India, so that the Christians of India are very far from being a community wholly European in the conditions of their daily life.

No. 25.—Statement showing for each Large Religion the Percentage borne to its Whole Numbers by the Persons of Both Sexes living at each Age Period.

Religions.	Age Periods.																
	Under 1.	1.	2.	3.	4.	Total 0 to 4.	5 to 9.	10 to 14.	15 to 19.	20 to 24.	25 to 29.	30 to 34.	35 to 39.	40 to 44.	45 to 49.	50 to 54.	55 to 59.	60 and over.
Hindus ...	2·21	2·37	2·89	3·52	3·04	14·03	14·40	10·04	7·56	7·88	9·21	8·76	6·08	6·53	3·51	4·38	1·77	5·78
Mahomedans.	2·57	2·48	3·38	3·88	3·46	15·77	15·91	10·42	7·70	7·59	8·90	8·26	5·55	6·01	3·06	4·04	1·39	5·31
Christians	2·88	2·46	2·93	3·68	3·16	15·11	14·28	10·97	8·58	9·58	9·78	8·19	6·18	5·17	3·27	3·13	1·59	4·15
Aboriginals	2·17	2·99	3·87	5·07	4·10	18·20	17·65	10·73	7·48	7·18	8·27	7·96	5·42	5·58	2·52	3·38	1·22	4·18
All Religions.	2·32	2·42	3·07	3·67	3·20	14·70	14·97	10·18	7·60	7·76	9·07	8·57	5·89	6·32	3·33	4·24	1·64	5·58

Childhood.

It will be seen from the above statement that of children under one year of age the largest proportion, compared with the whole population of the religion, is to be found among the Christians. From that age up to the tenth year of life children are relatively more numerous among the aboriginals than in any other class of persons.

Youth and manhood.

277. For the period of boyhood youth and manhood, *i.e.* from the 10th to the 40th year, the Christians stand first, with larger percentages of living population; while among the Hindus the numbers of the aged are more numerous, and the probability of long life greater. These results are just those which an intelligent observer would have foretold. The excess in the number of Christian infants alive under one year of age is due not to the fact that more are born, *i.e.* that the birth-rate among Christians is remarkably high, but chiefly to the fact that the ages of the infants were more accurately stated, and partly to the fact that in a part at least of the community European science and the proper treatment of infants vastly reduces their rate of mortality during the critical first few months of existence. Among Europeans accuracy of entry would be expected, while it would be secured among Native Christians by the custom of infant baptism, and by the influence of the spiritual heads of each community.

Middle age.

278. The preponderance among the Christians of persons in the prime of life is clearly due to the large population of European immigrants, mostly males, employed in the various careers which India offers. What the proportion of males to females is among *European* Christians for each age period cannot be ascertained from the returns. But taking the whole body of Christians, it is found that out of 43,146 persons of both sexes alive between the ages of 10 and 40, as many as 24,351 are males, being in the proportion of 120 males to every 100 females. For the same period of life among the followers of other religions, the number of males to 100 females is—

Hindus	102
Mahomedans	100
Aboriginals	100
All religions	101

If the period taken is from 20 to 40, the disproportion is greater still. For the same reason the proportion among Christians which the later age periods bear to the whole population is lower than is found in most of the other religions.

Infant life.

279. For the years of infant life from the beginning of the first to the end of the fourth complete year the percentage of living children to the whole population is higher among the aboriginal tribes than among the followers of any other religion. That child life should be more healthy, and children more numerous among these peoples, should be no matter for surprise; and the fact only affords a fresh illustration of the well-known law that the productive powers of man are in inverse proportion to the standard of luxury which he has reached; and that given a sufficient quantity of food without excessive hardships of climate, the offspring of the primitive races is more numerous and more healthy than that of their more civilised neighbours. More particularly is this the case in India, for it is impossible to conceive customs more prejudicial to the chances of survival than those which prevail both among Hindus and Mahomedans at the birth of a child. What these customs are may be gathered from the following graphic description extracted from the report of the Health Officer for the City of Calcutta upon the health of the city during the year 1876:—

"From the opinions and practices that prevail among natives regarding the management of young children, the latter are deprived from their birth of the greatest requirement of commenting life, viz. respirable air.

" * * * * * * * * * I am sure that every English medical practitioner in the place will admit that when he is summoned to a case of labour in the native town the scene to which he is introduced may be truly described in this manner:—

"A chamber, a few feet square, so situated that at the best of times its atmosphere must be close, has every aperture carefully shut. It is crowded with relatives and attendants, so that there is often barely room to sit, and a fire of wood embers, or even charcoal, is burning in an open vessel. The atmosphere is principally smoke, which is increased by herbs scattered on the fire for the purpose. The woman is lying, generally on the ground, in the midst of this. The feeling on entering the room is that of impending suffocation, and the first step which the visitor takes is to enable himself to breathe. He opens the window and clears the room of as many persons as can be got to leave it, who betake themselves to a balcony outside or block the doorway until his departure. He knows full well that as soon as his back is turned all will be as it was when he arrived; for it is among the first principles of native midwifery that air should be kept away from a newly-born child. This process of asphyxiation seems to be carried on for a variable period, but in no case, as far as I can ascertain, is the period less than seven days: it often extends to ten, and with Mahomedans much longer; nor does it alter under any extremes of natural heat. Its effect is enhanced by keeping the after-birth for several days to putrify in the room.

"No argument is needed to connect this state of things with a high prevalence of infantile fever, but it is both necessary and interesting to trace its relation to the enormous quantity of fatal convulsive disease that occurs here during the first days of life, for not only is there a total of 5,604 cases recorded under the two heads, but nearly one-half of the entire number of deaths, viz. 9,305, took place within a fortnight. To do this, one need only compare the published descriptions of dwelling places in remote parts of Russia and Iceland with what has now been said of the surroundings of a Calcutta infant. Cause and effect could not fit more closely than they do in all these places.

"Applying this conclusion of cause and effect to the variations of infant mortality in the town, we find in them all confirmation of its truth. That European infants die in small numbers means simply that they are not subject to the same fatal treatment, than which nothing could be more abhorrent to the instincts of a European *accoucheur*. That mixed races hold an intermediate place, is due to the admixture of native habits among the poorer classes. That Mahomedan usages are the most fatal, is partly due to the more rigorous and permanent seclusion of their females, and therefore of infants at the breast; partly to the fact that they are a poorer population, less well-housed, and with much fewer wealthy families among them; and partly to their refusing the aid even of native practitioners of English schools, who are on occasions admitted to the lying-in rooms of Hindu families."

280. The practices thus described prevail as well in country as in town, the difference being one of degree only and not of kind. The same report goes on to show that the high infant mortality which drew attention to these practices does not prevail among European and Eurasian infants, though the former are wholly, and the latter partially, alien to the country of their birth.

281. The figures for the first four years of life in the above table confirm the conclusions stated in the extract quoted. Out of every 100 persons of all ages the number of children under five years of age is for—

Aboriginals	18·20	Christians	15·11
Mahomedans	15·77	Hindus	14·03

—that is to say, supposing the birth-rate to be the same, the mortality among the children of Hindus is more than 4 per cent higher during the first five years of life than it is among those of the aboriginal races, and nearly 2 per cent higher than it is among the Mahomedans. It need hardly be said that the low percentage of children under five years among Christians is due to the fact that so large a proportion of the adult population is unproductive: in other words, that most of the Europeans of this country at the reproductive age are males who are either unmarried or whose wives are not in India.

282. After 30 years of age (excluding the period 35 to 39) the chances of living are much greater for the Hindus than for the followers of any other cult, for out of every 100 living persons of all ages, those 30 years and over are among—

Hindus	36·81	Aboriginals	30·24
Mahomedans	33·62	Christians	28·68

while the average for the whole population of all religions is 35·62. If the two quinquennial periods of 30 to 34 and 35 to 39 be left as a debateable ground between the Hindu and the Christian communities, and the 40th year be taken as the point of departure, the superior healthiness of middle age among the Hindus is more strikingly shown, for out of each 100 living persons the number of those 40 years and over is among—

Hindus	21·97	Aboriginals	16·86
Mahomedans	19·81	Christians	14·31

while the general average is 21·14. The reason why the Christians are at the bottom of the list will be gathered from what has gone before: it is not that the habits of Christians render their hold on life more precarious as they approach its close, but that the number of European Christians remaining in the country after 40 years of age becomes rapidly smaller with each succeeding year of life, and thus reduces the general average for the whole Christian community. The rude life of the aboriginal tribes, though it favours the young and is suitable to the preservation of health in middle age, has few of those elements which conserve the failing powers and prolong the life of the aged. Their life is short and vigorous; they have probably a high birth-rate with a rate of mortality unusually low till middle age is reached, when it changes rapidly to an abnormally high one. Why the chances of survival should be so much greater among middle-aged Hindus than among Mahomedans of equal

age, I am at a loss to explain, and will only indicate the fact, leaving its solution to some more practised inquirer, for whose benefit also the following table is given, showing the percentage of the population to the whole in decennial periods instead of the quinquennial periods given in Statement 25.

No. 26.—Statement showing for each Large Religion the Percentage borne to its Whole Numbers by the Population of Both Sexes living at each Decennial Age Period.

Religions.	0—9.	10—19.	20—29.	30—39.	40—49.	50—59.	60 and over.
Hindus	28·43	17·61	17·09	14·84	10·04	6·15	5·78
Mahomedans	31·68	18·12	16·49	13·81	9·07	5·43	5·31
Christians	29·39	19·55	19·36	14·37	5·44	4·72	4·15
Aboriginals	35·86	18·22	15 45	13·38	8·10	4·58	4·18
All Religions ...	29·69	17·80	16·85	14·48	9·67	5 89	5·58

Proportion of the sexes in the population.

283. It was stated in paragraph 273 above that a sufficient explanation could be given for the remarkable disparity which exists between the numbers of the population of the age period 5 to 9 and of the period 10 to 14. This explanation depends entirely upon a consideration of the relative proportion of the sexes at those ages, and therefore necessitates a preliminary examination of the proportions of the sexes to one another throughout the whole population. In the total population, without distinction of age or religion, the number of males in 1881 was 34,625,591, and that of females 34,911,270; the sexes being in the ratio of 49·79 males to 50·20 females in each 100 of the population, while the number of males to every 100 females was 99·18. In 1872, when the previous census of Bengal was taken, a very similar condition of affairs was discovered, for out of a population of 62,705,718 persons the males numbered 31,341,366, or 49·98 per cent of the people, while the females were 81,364,352, or 50·01 per cent, the number of men being 99·92 to every 100 women. Now the error to which census operations in India are most liable is an understating of the female population. National prejudices and a false shame among the upper classes, and among the lower classes a tendency to ignore the existence of their women as not worth returning, combine to produce this result, and to reduce the ascertained numbers of the weaker sex below their true figure. But where actual experience of census operations has shown that no evil results follow the enumeration of the females of a household, or where the gradual spread of knowledge has pushed aside the barriers of prejudice and created confidence in the operations of Government, these fancies give way, and the enumerator is enabled, without offending the feelings of the husband or father, to secure accurate statistics for the unnamed women of his house, so that it may be said that in the absence of special causes tending to increase the number of women in the population or reduce that of men, the accuracy of each successive census may be gauged by the increasing proportion which is borne to the whole population by the numbers of females it records. No such special cause can be traced during the nine years which elapsed between the censuses of 1872 and 1881, and it does not therefore seem too much to say that the small increase in the proportionate number of females recorded in the census just past is due to the greater accuracy with which the enumeration was carried out; while the fact that there was both in 1872 and 1881 an absolute numerical predominance of females over males is some evidence of the existence of a wider civilisation in Bengal than in other provinces of the empire, where the male outnumbers the female population.

Proportions of the sexes in each age period.

284. To appreciate justly, however, the statistical importance of this distribution of the population, it is essential to examine the proportions of the sexes at different ages of life and in different sections of the community, and to trace, if possible, the causes of the variations observed. To elucidate the investigation,

the following table is given, which shows for each religion the proportion of males to females at each quinquennial period of life :—

No. 27.—Statement showing for each Main Religion the Number of Males to every 100 Females living at each Age Period.

Religions.	Ages.									
	Under one year.	1.	2.	3.	4.	Total 0 to 4.	5 to 9.	10 to 14.	15 to 19.	20 to 24.
Hindus	98·19	93 11	89·54	90·09	98·85	93·58	106·31	123·87	102·54	87·01
Mohamedans	98·50	93 54	91·62	92·37	99 63	94·95	107·42	128·27	89·68	77·13
Christians	108·89	92·95	96·95	93·08	101·68	98·48	101·53	112·68	99·27	124 26
Buddhists	111·94	89·98	105·32	102·26	103·30	102·73	102·52	116 05	92 78	78 24
Aboriginals	145·11	90·56	81·52	68 06	92·93	94·77	106·18	125·52	95·30	77·85
All Religions ...	98·33	93·27	90·03	90·72	98·90	93 91	106·66	125·28	98·06	83·69

Religions—(*continued*).	Ages—(*continued*).									
	25 to 29.	30 to 34.	35 to 39.	40 to 44.	45 to 49.	50 to 54.	55 to 59.	60 and upwards.	Unspecified.	Total.
Hindus	94·26	99·31	107·68	97 68	106·40	91·54	94·53	71·28	92·29	98·70
Mahomedans	92·19	100·00	126·25	101·38	121·98	92·17	107·12	135·88	81·96	100·06
Christians	128 34	125·06	147·21	131·66	136·08	107·18	99·70	75·79	108·00	112·07
Buddhists	90·55	90 06	105·45	86 48	93·75	83 06	98·52	68·55	130·43	101·68
Aboriginals	88·14	99·47	117·35	106·85	109·89	99·98	92·83	81·56	84·50	99·34
All Religions ...	93·58	99·56	113·27	99·01	110·76	91·93	97·70	74·18	83·68	99·18

285. Taking first the population of All Religions, it will be seen that the females exceed the males at every age except the following :—

	Males.		Males.
5 to 9	106·66	35 to 39	113·27
10 to 14	125·28	45 to 49	110·76

286. In the majority of the remaining age periods the proportions of the sexes approach each other closely, but the deficiency of males is most marked in the following cases, where they only number—

2 years	90·03	60 and upwards	74·18
3 do.	90·72	Unspecified	83·68
20 to 24	83·69		

287. The most striking fact apparent on glancing at these figures is that while the girls outnumber the boys during the first five years of life, this proportion is violently reversed during the next two quinquennial periods, and the boys are shown as greatly in excess of the girls. If these figures represent the actual facts, we must believe that between the years 1871 and 1881 there was, for some reason or other, an extraordinary mortality among female

children, especially in the latter half of the decade, or that in the ten years between 1866 and 1876 there was some surprising check to the birth of female infants; for whereas out of every 100 males of all ages the boys of 5 to 9 are 15·54 in number, the girls for the same periods only number 14·44 in every 100 females. Further, in the next quinquenniad this proportion is still greater, for while the percentage of boys is 11·39, that of the girls is only 9·01: so that taking the ten years together, the result is that while in every 100 males the boys between 5 and 14 are 26·93 in number, the girls of the same age are only 23·45 in every 100 women of all ages. At the census of the North-Western Provinces in 1872, which was conducted by the present Census Commissioner for India, a similar state of affairs was disclosed, and Mr. Plowden's conclusion, after an exhaustive review of all the circumstances, was that there had undoubtedly been some absolute omission of the female population; that in addition to this there had been some wilful misstatements of age; and, lastly, that the proportionately small number of girls of this age was partly caused by the horrible practice of female infanticide. How far this conclusion holds good for the figures of the present Bengal census we may now consider.

Deficiency of girls.

The reason of it is

288. The key to the whole mystery is the fact that these two age periods enclose the five years from 8 to 13, during which almost all native girls are given in marriage. Among the Hindus custom prescribes that every girl should go through the marriage ceremony before she reaches the age of puberty, and if for any cause her betrothal is delayed beyond that period, every effort is made to dispose of her hand before she becomes of full age. An unmarried girl in the house after she has attained the age of matrimony is a shame and a reproach to the householder, and a constant scandal and anxiety to him. The Mahomedan community, especially that very large section of it which differs but little except in creed, and in manners hardly at all, from the Hindus besides them, follow the same practice and share the same feeling. It is true that among the aboriginal and less civilised tribes, and in the other sections of the population, infant marriage is less common; but the Hindus and Mahomedans together compose 67,157,530, or 96·57 per cent of the whole of the inhabitants of Bengal, so that, as has been shown in the last chapter, child-marriage and the prejudices which surround it may be said to be universal in these provinces.

either omission to record them

289. It is obvious that a deficiency of girls in this period may be brought about in one or more of three ways, for while their numbers may have been correctly returned their ages may have been (1) overstated or (2) understated or (3) they may have been altogether omitted from enumeration. Mr. Plowden's conclusion was that in the North-Western Provinces there had been systematic omission to record at all a considerable proportion of the girls of this age; and I am inclined to think that the improperly small figures in this age period in Bengal are due partly to that cause, and partly to understatement of ages. The suggestion of overstatement may be dismissed at once, for the feeling which makes it shameful to acknowledge the presence in the household of an unmarried girl of marriageable age would make it quite impossible that her age should be exaggerated, unless indeed a double deception were practised, and she were returned as married also. If understatement of age has been common, we should expect to find an unusually large proportion of girls in the ages immediately before that of marriage, and, owing to the misstatement, a rise again in the proportionate number of girls in the immediately succeeding period. Both these conditions exist, as the following figures will show:—

Age.	Number of females.	Percentage on 100 females of all ages.	Proportion to 100 males of each age.
0 to 4	5,254,711	15·09	106·49
5 to 9	5,028,395	14·44	93·75
10 to 14	3,137,523	9·01	79·83
15 to 19	2,662,376	7·64	101·97

It will be seen that the fall in numbers from the first to the second age period is very large, and that it is out of all proportion to the corresponding decrease in the numbering of the other sex; for while to every 100 male infants there were 106·49 female children under 5 years of age, in the next period the position is entirely reversed, and the number of girls is only 93·75 to every 100 boys. Were figures available for each year of life in the second quinquenniad as for the first, there can be no doubt that they would show that the numbers for its first three years, viz. the sixth, seventh, and eighth, are much in excess of those in the remaining years of the period; but in the absence of the materials necessary to demonstrate the fact, it can only be stated as probable.

290. If, on the other hand, it were the case that there had been a simple omission to record the ages of these girls, it would be reasonable to expect that the same phenomena which mark the preceding age period 0—4 would reappear in that which follows the decade under examination, inasmuch as but for this omission the characteristics of all four age periods would have been continuous. Accordingly the table in the preceding paragraph and the figures in paragraph show that while the females exceed the males among the infants of tender years, and again from the 15th year almost without a break to the end of life, this law is violently broken during the ten years from 5 to 14. It has been shown in the preceding paragraph that part of the disturbance is due to the probable transfer of a considerable number of lives from the third to the second quinquennial period, but this is not sufficient to remedy the loss which has been caused by absolute omission. Judging from European experience, the progress of the percentages on the whole female population should be somewhat as follows, assuming that the initial percentage, that for 0—4, is correct, viz.— or understatement of their ages.

0 to 4	...	...	...	...	14 per cent.
5 to 9	...	...	...	...	12 „
10 to 14	...	...	...	...	10 „

that is to say, while the reasonable ratio which these two age periods together should bear to the whole female population is 22 per cent, the ratio actually borne by the numbers returned is 16·65, or a deficit of nearly $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Making allowances for revisions in the percentages which would have to be made if all the ages could be corrected, it seems fair to say that there has been an omission of females during this age period of about 3 per cent.

291. Were any further evidence necessary in support of these arguments, it could be found in an examination of the figures for each religion. It has been frequently stated that female seclusion to the extent that it is now practised was unknown in India before the Mahomedan invasion, and that while the Mahomedans themselves strictly adhered to this exotic habit, their conquered subjects found themselves constrained to adopt the custom quite as much from necessity as from motives of policy. It is therefore not surprising to find that the largest proportion of males to females for the ages 5 to 9 and 10 to 14 is returned by the Mahomedans; that the Hindus and their imitators the aborigines closely follow them; and that by parity of reasoning the Christians are at the bottom of the list, being neighboured by the Buddhists, whose delicacy on this point is admittedly less. The number of males to 100 females in each religion for these two age periods is shown below:—

	5 to 9.	10 to 14.	Mean of the two periods.
Mahomedans	107·42	128·27	117·84
Hindus	106·31	123·87	115·09
Aborigines	106·18	125·52	115·85
Buddhists	102·52	116·05	109·28
Christians	101·53	112·68	107·10

292. For the excess of males at the age periods 20 to 24, 35 to 39, and 45 to 49, it is less easy to account, unless it be that uncertainty as to age is more accentuated among women than among men, thus throwing larger numbers of the female population of each decade into its earliest half, and thus by contrast augmenting the proportional number of males in its latter half. The same reason will probably explain the large proportion of females among those whose age was not stated, viz. 100 women for every 83 men. That the old

women of 60 and upwards should outnumber the old men of the same age is only in accordance with universal experience all over the world.

Sex and ages of the Christians.

293. Before dismissing the question of the distribution of the sexes at different ages, the anomalous position held by the Christian population should be noticed. It has already been explained that the Christian is very far from synonymous with the European population, inasmuch as more than 67 per cent of the whole Christian community are natives of this country; yet for all that the proportion of European immigrants, mostly of middle age, is large enough to dislocate completely the usual proportions of the sexes at the different periods of life. Accordingly the statement given in paragraph 284 shows that for the period of adult life the ratio of men to women is much higher among the Christians than in any other community. For every 100 Christian women between the ages of 20 and 55 the number of Christian men is 128·54, while the mean of the males belonging to other religions at the same age is 84·11 men to 100 women. Similarly in paragraph 276 figures are given showing the small percentage which Christian children bear to the whole Christian population in spite of the advantages which many of them enjoy at birth and during the first few years of life.

Ages arranged in decennial periods.

294. In dealing, however, with large numbers, of which the accuracy in details is open to any question, a much truer, if more general, view of the real facts is obtained by collecting the figures into larger masses. Errors correct each other, and a bird's eye view over a wide tract of country conveys a much truer impression of its salient points than a microscopical examination of the rocks of which it is composed. It has been shown that the Bengal age figures, arranged in groups of five years, are, for intelligible reasons, not absolutely in accord with the probable facts. But when the population is arranged in groups of ten years each, as in the following form, much of the anomaly vanishes, for the spurious prominence given to each alternate quinquennial period, by the inclusion within it of the round number, is now counteracted in each group of ten years by the unreally small figures of the second quinquennial period, so that the proportion of the population living at each age approaches more nearly to what is believed by statisticians to be the true ratio to the mean of similar age periods in all India and to the statistics of life in European countries.

No. 28.—Statement showing the Population of Either Sex and of Both Sexes arranged in Decennial Periods, with the Numbers in each and the Ratio they bear to the whole Population.

Ages.	Persons.			Percentages		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
All Ages	*34,500,574*	34,802,906	69,303,480	*100*	100	100
0—9	*10,298,367*	10,283,106	20,581,473	*29·84*	29·54	29·69
10—19	*6,541,613*	5,799,899	12,341,512	*18·96*	16·66	17·80
20—29	*5,498,864*	6,185,587	11,684,451	*15·93*	17·77	16·85
30—39	*5,138,627*	4,897,095	10,035,722	*14·89*	14·07	14·48
40—49	*3,400,024*	3,303,340	6,703,364	*9·85*	9·49	9·67
50—59	*1,973,575*	2,110,523	4,084,098	*5·72*	6·06	5·89
60 and over	*1,649,504*	2,223,356	3,872,860	*4·78*	6·38	5·58

295. The proportion borne to the whole population by the persons in the first ten years of life is now, as it should be, nearly twice that of the second period, while the third and fourth periods, which embrace the years when human life is most vigorous, show but slightly diminished ratios to the whole. The proportions of the sexes at each quinquennial age period have already been examined in the foregoing paragraphs, and it is unnecessary to refer again to the arguments there brought forward to account for the variation noticed.

296. To carry this argument a little further before quitting it, the following table is given, which shows for Bengal the population arranged in periods of 20 years each. It confirms the arguments made use of above, and has probably the merit of being almost exactly correct. Ages arranged in periods of 20 years.

No. 29.—*Statement showing the Population of Either Sex and of Both Sexes, arranged in Vicennial Periods, with the Numbers in each and the Ratio they bear to the whole Population.*

Ages.	Persons.			Percentages.		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
All Ages	*34,500,574*	34,802,906	69,803,480	*100*	100	100
0—19	*16,839,980*	16,083,005	82,922,985	*48·80*	46·21	47·50
20—39	*10,637,491*	11,082,682	21,720,173	*30·80*	31·84	31·84
40—59	*5,373,599*	5,413,863	10,787,462	*15·57*	15·55	15·56
60 and upwards	*1,649,504*	2,223,356	3,872,860	*4·78*	6·38	5·53

297. In the report on the census of England and Wales in 1871 the Census Commissioners explain as follows what the factors are which determine the mean age of the population at any given date:— Mean age of the population.

"Leaving immigration out of account, the numbers found by the census living in the country at any age depend on two totally distinct factors: (1) on the numbers borne in the year of their birth, and (2) on the numbers of them that (*a*) die or (*b*) leave the country between the date of birth and the date of enumeration. The mean ages of a population may therefore be reduced in three ways: (1) most obviously by a high rate of mortality shortening their lives, inasmuch as the numbers living at the advanced ages will all thereby be reduced; (2) by the emigration of adults in undue proportion; and (3) less obviously, but as certainly, by an increase of births, for then the numbers at advanced ages are fewer than they should be *in proportion*, simply because the numbers of children born years ago, of which the adults are the survivors, were fewer than the children born in recent years."

298. Of these conditions two at least obtain in Bengal, for there is a high death-rate and a high birth-rate, which, in spite of the many risks to which infant life is exposed among the natives of India, brings a large annual addition to the population. Thus, while the mean age of the population in England, which has remained constant for 20 years, was in 1871 for males 26·0, and for females 26·8 years, the mean age of both sexes being 26·4, the mean age of the whole population in Bengal is 24·99, the males having 24·49 and the females 25·49 years.

299. The same facts are shown in another way by the table given below, which is similar to that numbered 45 in Appendix A to the Report on the Census of England and Wales (1871). The figures upon which the calculation is based are those actually returned without correction, and the calculation has been made in the manner indicated in the English Report.

No. 30.—*Statement showing the Number of Persons living at and above the age mentioned in the first column, omitting those whose age was not stated.*

Ages.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.
Under 5 years	69,303,480	34,500,574	34,802,906
5 „ and over	59,113,894	29,565,699	29,548,195
10 „ „	48,722,007	24,202,207	24,519,800
15 „ „	41,653,702	20,271,425	21,382,277
20 „ „	36,380,495	17,660,594	18,719,901
25 „ „	30,993,986	15,206,359	15,787,627
30 „ „	24,696,044	12,161,730	12,534,414
35 „ „	18,749,625	9,194,992	9,554,633
40 „ „	14,660,322	7,023,103	7,637,219
45 „ „	10,273,753	4,840,620	5,433,133
50 „ „	7,956,958	3,623,079	4,333,879
55 „ „	5,011,923	2,212,423	2,799,500
60 „ „	3,872,860	1,649,504	2,223,356

300. It will be seen that the population of both sexes is equally divided at about 22½ years—the males being divided at about 21½ years, and the females at about 23½.

301. Dealing with this subject, viz. the proportions of the population under and over 20 years of age, the authors of the Census Report for Scotland (1871) quote the law that in old and settled countries, where the increase of the population is left to the operation of natural causes, *i e.* the excess of births over deaths, the tendency is for the population, especially the male population, to be more numerous above than below 20 years of age. Where, however, the country is new and immigration disarranges the natural order of things, the number of males below 20 exceeds that above 20. Judged by this standard Bengal gains little by immigration, for of its total population of both sexes 52·49 are 20 years and over, while for the males 51·04 are 20 years and over, and of the females 53·70 are of that age. These figures show that in Bengal, as elsewhere, female adult lives are better than male adult lives; that immigration is inconsiderable: and did we not know as a fact (*see* Chapter X below) that the reverse is the case, we should be led to infer from them that immigration removes a considerable number of males at the period of early manhood.

Ages of the population in each Division.

302. The provinces under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal are partitioned for administrative purposes into nine great Divisions, to which, so far as regards the census, a tenth has been added, arbitrarily composed of the various feudatory states which recognise the suzerainty of the British Government as represented by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. These great Divisions are for the most part broadly distinguished from each other by unmistakeable characteristics of climate and formation; and as the districts which each contains generally bear to each other a strong family resemblance, so to speak, the Commissioner's Division forms naturally a convenient and appropriate intermediate unit of examination between the whole province and the individual districts which compose it. For this reason the following table has been drawn up, showing in each Division the percentages borne to the whole population by the number in each age period. For the reasons already stated, the percentages for the quinquennial periods do not afford so safe a ground for enquiry and observation as those for periods of ten years, and the population has therefore been arranged in the following statement in groups of ten years each:—

No. 31.—*Statement showing for each Administrative Division the Number in every* 100 *of the whole Population belonging to each Period of Ten Years.*

Divisions and Provinces.	Ages.						
	0 to 9.	10 to 19.	20 to 29.	30 to 39.	40 to 49.	50 to 59.	60 and upwards.
Burdwan	25·62	18·71	18·47	14·82	10·09	6·35	5·59
Presidency	27·73	17·67	17·61	14·58	10·08	6·22	6·05
Rajshahye	30·43	17·38	16·83	14·67	9 66	5·50	5·46
Dacca	31·30	18·33	16·66	13·53	8·92	5·41	5·75
Chittagong	32·16	19·63	15·78	12·81	8·63	5·64	5·26
Bengal Proper ...	30·19	18·17	17·21	14·28	9·57	5 84	5·68
Patna	29·94	16·55	16·35	15·11	10·50	6·44	6·04
Bhaugulpore	30·55	17·93	16·19	14·86	9 65	5·53	5·23
Behar ...	29 50	17·03	16·29	15·03	10·21	6·12	5·76
Orissa	29·48	18·24	17·25	13·47	9·21	6·28	5 82
Chota Nagpore	33·71	18·35	16 28	14·02	8·36	4·97	4·26
All Bengal ...	29·60	17·79	16·83	14·49	9·69	5·93	5·62
Feudatory States ...	31·84	17·97	17·22	14·10	8 96	5·24	4·61
All Bengal including Feudatory States.	29·69	17·79	16·84	14·48	9·66	5·88	5·58

303. It will be seen that out of every 100 persons of both sexes in these provinces more than 29 are under 10 years old and nearly 17 are between 10 and 20, so that the children and youths combined amount to 47·48 per cent, or nearly half the population. To the next 20 years, viz. from 20 to 39, which certainly in India correspond to the prime of life, 31 persons belong—of whom nearly 17 are between 20 and 30; middle age, from 40 to 60, has 15 representatives, of whom 6 are between 50 and 60, and almost an equal number represents the aged. The percentages for each Division, with few exceptions, differ very slightly from the mean of the whole province; and where they do, the differences are readily explainable by local circumstances.

304. During the first ten years of life the figures for the Chota Nagpore, Dacca, and Chittagong Divisions and the Feudatory States appreciably exceed the average. It has already been pointed out, in dealing with the ages of the population of each religion, that among the aboriginal tribes, who compose the greater part of the inhabitants of the Chota Nagpore Division and the Feudatory States, the union of the sexes is prolific, and the survival of children comparatively large, while the lives of the people are short. These conditions explain the large percentage of children in their midst. In Chittagong and Dacca, on the other hand, the excess is more apparent than real. There is nothing to show that an exceptionally high birth-rate exists in these Divisions, and the notorious unhealthiness of Chittagong would lead to an opposite a conclusion. But the fact is that the seaboard districts of this part of the province provide almost all the sailors of the Bay of Bengal, while their dense network of inland rivers and creeks forms a roadway for a water traffic which employs hundreds of thousands of boatmen, almost all of the central years of life, who were thus necessarily absent on the census night from their homes and the districts to which they belong, thereby unnaturally raising in proportion the percentages of the young and the aged in their whole population.

305. On the other hand, the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions are considerably below the average in their percentage of children. The existence in the Presidency Division of the great city of Calcutta, with its Suburbs, containing an enormously large proportion of adults, is quite sufficient to account for the small percentage of children in the Division as a whole. In the Burdwan Division the scarcity of children is due to the effects of the fever which devastated it at the beginning of the last decade, and which has not only carried off the weakest and youngest of the population, but has notoriously, and to demonstration, impaired the reproductive powers of the survivors.

306. The features noticed in the Chota Nagpore, Chittagong, and Dacca Divisions for the first age period reappear in the second ten years from 10 to 19, the percentage of boys and girls being unusually high for the reasons already stated in the preceding paragraph. In the Patna Division, on the other hand, the number of the youth of this age is comparatively smaller than in any other part of the country, and is $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent lower than the average of the province. It does not seem likely, in the face of the great increase in the population of this Division since the last census, and of the known facts as regards famine relief there, that any portion of this deficit can be attributed to mortality during the scarcity of 1873 in Behár. The more probable explanation is, that inasmuch as the districts of this Division are more largely inhabited than others by Hindus of the upper classes, who are the most keenly sensitive as to the seclusion of their women and the marriage of their young girls, the omission of women, or the understatement of their ages noticed in previous paragraphs prevails to a greater extent in this Division than elsewhere. That this is the true solution of the anomaly will be seen by a reference to the tables showing the proportions of the sexes to each other at each age, district by district; for these tables show that while the average number of males to 100 females at the age 10 to 19 is for the whole province 112·78, the number of males to every 100 females of this age rises in the Patna Division to 117·88.

307. For the third decennial period, 20 to 29, the principal features are an excess of numbers in the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions, and a deficit in that of Chittagong. The causes of these variations have already been indicated, and they lie, as regards the Chittagong Division, in the depletion of its young adults

to supply the mercantile marine; as regards the Burdwan Division, in the survival through the fever of a larger proportion of the youthful population just above boyhood; and as regards the Presidency Division, in the great excess of young adults in Calcutta and its environs.

308. In the next two periods, 30 to 39 and 40 to 49, those of the prime of life and early middle age, no Division shows an extraordinary excess; but the causes already stated operate in Chittagong and Dacca to produce a deficit again. For the first of the two decennias, however, Orissa has a population one per cent below the provincial average on account of the absence from their homes of the numerous males of that age who pervade Bengal, and especially frequent Calcutta, as domestic servants, coolies, and palki-bearers. For the second of these decennias the Chota Nagpore Division shows a population one per cent less numerous than the average. The explanation is twofold, and applies to all the ten-year periods after the first two; for while it is true that a considerable number of the adults of this Division are constantly absent as earthwork labourers and coolies in tea-gardens and other centres of labour, it is equally the fact that the proportion the adults bear to the whole population is also reduced by the large percentages of children and youths it contains.

309. In the sixth period, 50 to 59, very little variation is observed either way from the general average of 5·88 per cent. For the reasons already stated, however, the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions exceed the average, as does that of Patna, possibly on account of its superior climate, which again asserts itself in the next period, 60 and upwards, that of old age. In Chota Nagpore the lowest percentage is found, viz. 4·97, a result explainable doubtless by the fact stated in paragraph that among the aboriginal tribes long life is comparatively less common than among the followers of other religions.

310. Lastly, in the concluding period of old age, 60 and upwards, the Presidency Division holds first place, closely followed by that of Patna. The reason for the prominence of the latter has already been stated; but why the chance of life should be so much better in the metropolitan districts of Bengal is not so clear. In confirmation of the argument in the last paragraph, the Division of Chota Nagpore and the Feudatory States show a proportion of aged persons considerably below the average.

Ages of the population in 1872 and 1881.

311. It has been stated that in 1872 no further detail of age was taken than the separation of the whole population into children and adults at the age of 12 years; and in order to secure materials for a comparison with those figures, a similar division of the population was made in compiling the returns for 1881. Details for every district, and for all the different religions recorded in 1872, will be found in Table No. XXV, but the following statement gives the information in a concise form, and will repay careful attention. It will be seen that it deals with the increase and decrease of the children only, and that the figures for adults have been omitted, as they were not at all required, representing in each case merely the balance of the population.

No. 32.—*Statement comparing for each District and Division the Proportion Per Cent of the Population of All Religions below* 12 *years of age in* 1872 *and* 1881.

District.	Males.		Females.	
	1872.	1881.	1872.	1881.
Burdwan	32·58	*23·86*	24·85	*26·02*
Bankoorah	37·11	*34·80*	30·51	*31·68*
Beerbhoom	35·03	*30·39*	28·57	*27·97*
Midnapore	36·42	*32·15*	28·41	*30·38*
Hooghly	34·44	*26·93*	24·86	*23·53*
Howrah		*30·42*		*28·64*
Burdwan Division	35·12	*30·93*	27·14	*28·64*
24-Pergunnahs	35·02	*32·42*	25·49	*3203*
Suburbs	18·54	*17·39*	22·06	*22·11*

District.	Males.		Females.	
	1872.	1881.	1872.	1881.
Calcutta	12·59	12 23	19·47	21·62
Nuddea	37·73	36·10	28·37	32·83
Jessore	36·69	35·11	27·38	32·50
Khoolna	33·98	32·22	31·09	33·89
Moorshedabad	36·61	34·74	27·97	30·65
Presidency Division	33·68	32·18	28·18	31·72
Dinagepore	37·82	34·48	32·13	34·72
Rajshahye	40·27	36·22	31·90	33·41
Rungpore	35·74	33·63	28·86	32·65
Bogra	37·70	36·00	30·93	35·61
Pubna	38·60	37·73	31·78	35·85
Darjeeling	31·04	26·09	33·08	32·17
Julpigoree	38·41	33·45	33·36	34·59
Rajshahye Division	37·69	34·95	31·05	34·15
Dacca	39·34	38·45	32·00	36·24
Furreedpore	38·30	36·05	29·36	34·06
Backergunge	37·66	33·76	32·76	34·85
Mymensingh	38·74	36·41	32·00	36·63
Dacca Division	38·52	36·23	31·05	35·66
Chittagong	46·34	41·02	33·96	34·93
Noakholly	41·77	38·12	34·47	37·26
Tipperah	38·12	35·63	34·37	36·55
Chittagong Hill Tracts	31·52	34·72	38·07	39·49
Chittagong Division	41·43	37·84	34·31	36·24
All Bengal Proper	36·75	34·08	29·97	32·95
Patna	35·50	32·93	30·13	31·43
Gya	36·11	34·38	31·81	32·76
Shahabad	37·43	35·46	30·75	31·92
Mozufferpore	37·13	36·09	31·81	33·94
Durbhunga		36·05		34·22
Sarun	39·10	35·92	33·12	32·33
Chumparum	36·60	33·22	33·59	33·71
Patna Division	37·08	35·02	31·80	33·00
Monghyr	38·13	36·17	32·87	34·62
Bhaugulpore	38·38	35·90	33·31	34·72
Purneah	37·40	34·51	30·43	33·94
Maldah	38·46	35·32	30·94	33·51
Sonthal Pergunnahs	42·83	39·99	38·57	40·16
Bhaugulpore Division	38·88	36·39	33·22	35·46
All Behar	37·73	35·51	32·34	33·85
Cuttack	37·49	36·55	31·72	33·90
Pooree	35·69	33·78	32·54	34·09
Balasore	35·55	35·62	31·04	33·38
Angul	43·82	37·51	40·24	39·81
Banki	37·18	31·88	34·07	32·48
All Orissa	37·43	35·61	32·00	33·94
Hazaribagh	41·12	40·39	31·28	38·62
Lohardugga	44·06	40·18	36·60	38·67
Singbhoom	41·02	37·07	36·73	36·17
Manbhoom	41·11	37·58	33·27	36·93
All Chota Nagpore	42·35	39·25	34·46	37·96
The Whole Province ...	37·41	34·98	31·12	33·64
Cooch Behar	36·07	33·22	29·07	34·66
Hill Tipperah	.....	37·28	.....	39·00
Tributary Estates of Orissa	39·60	36·68	35·40	36·01
Ditto, Chota Nagpore	42·01	39·14	39·35	38·91
Feudatory Estates	39·41	36·54	35·00	36·52
All Bengal, including Foreign States	37·48	35·05	31·25	33·75

Increase in the proportion of female children.

312. The most obvious fact which an examination of this statement discloses is the general augmentation which has taken place in the recorded proportion of female children. In 1872, out of every 100 females 31·25 were said to be children under 12 years of age, but in 1881 the number under similar conditions was 33·75. These are the figures for the whole province and for all religions, but an examination of the details shows that what is true of the whole is true of almost all its parts. In only seven districts has there been a decline since 1872 in the proportion of girls to grown women, viz. in Beerbhoom, the Suburbs of Calcutta, Darjeeling, Sarun, Angul, Banki, and the Tributary States of Chota Nagpore. In the the Suburbs and in Darjeeling the percentage has been reduced by the large proportion of immigrant adults exceeding the birth-rate of female children, and in the other districts the difference is so small that no theory can be based upon it. Unless we believe that during the past nine years the proportion of female to male births has been universally great, and that the absolute birth-rate of female infants has been abnormally high, we must attribute the result noticed to one or both of two causes, that is to say, either to a more accurate enumeration of female children than in 1872, or a considerable understatement of the ages of the women. Probably both these causes have been at work. It should be remembered that the 12th year is the extreme limit of childhood, as that term is understood in Bengal, and that for the reasons stated in page 114 above the tendency among the people is certainly to understate than to overstate the ages of their female relatives at this period of their life. Secondly, it has been suggested that the ratio of the increase of females at each census is the ratio of its greater correctness, and the universality of the phenomenon lends force to this suggestion.

Decrease in the proportion of boys.

313. As regards males, on the other hand, there would seem to have been for some cause an arrest of the births of male children; but as there is nothing to show that this has happened, an explanation must be sought elsewhere. It appears possible that it may lie in a more accurate enumeration in this way. In 1872 Mr. Beverley explained the preponderance of boys among the children of both sexes by suggesting that the earlier maturity of girls caused them to be considered and returned as women at an age when their brothers were still treated as boys. If it is conceded that a more accurate enumeration, or, at any rate, a more detailed enquiry as to age, has resulted in a larger proportion of girls being shown as under twelve years old in 1881 than in 1872, it must be admitted that the converse to this effect has been produced in the case of boys; that the tendency to treat boys as younger than they really are has been combated by the demand for an exact statement of age made at the census just taken; and that the figures both for boys and girls are now, for contrary reasons, more near the truth than they were in 1872. The continuity of the falling off in the proportion of boys is complete except in the solitary case of the Chittagong Hill Tracts; and it is therefore impossible to ascribe it to any local or special cause, or to any law but one of general operation such as this.

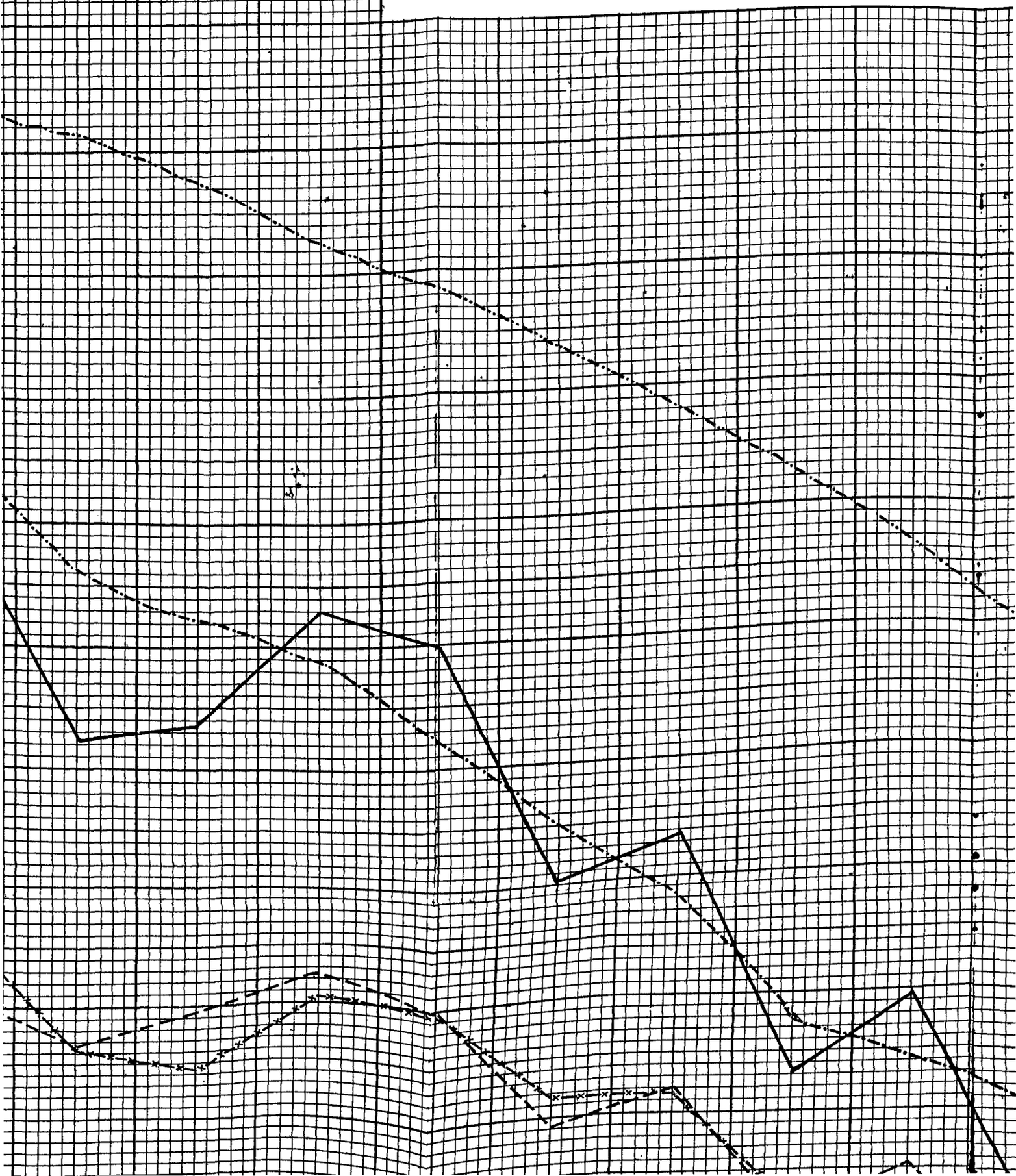
CENSUS OF BENGAL 1881.

DIAGRAM SHOWING THE NUMBERS OF THE POPULATION AT EACH AGE PER
FROM THE CENSUS RETURNS, TOGETHER WITH THE PROBABLE NUMBERS
ACCORDING TO THE ENGLISH LIFE TABLES IN A POPULATION OF TH

FACULTY OF ACTUARIES
OF THE
BOMBAY
BRANCH
OF THE
INSTITUTE

EXPLANATION.

(1) ——·——·—— Line of English lives, both sexes.
(2) ———— Line of life for both sexes, as returned.
(3) —·—·—·— Do. do. probable.
(4) —×—×—×— Do. for males, as returned.
(5) – – – – Do. for females, do.



CHAPTER IX.

STATISTICS OF HINDU CASTES.

(Table VIII, Appendix B, pages 239 to 282, and Table XXVI of Appendix C, pages 755 to 766.)

Introductory.

314. The first of the tables quoted above shows the distribution district by district of every Hindu caste which has 100,000 or more representatives in the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, giving the numbers of each sex as well as the total of both. In the second table details are given of the smaller castes, which, as they did not reach the standard of 100,000 persons, were grouped together in Table VIII under the general heading of "Others." But as the number of these small castes is very large, their distribution is shown, not by districts, but by provinces only. Furthermore, all the castes are divided into five great classes, viz. (1) Brahmins, (2) Rajputs, (3) Other Hindu castes, (4) Aboriginal castes, (5) Hindus not recognising caste; and lastly the indefinite class of (6) Hindus—caste not stated.

315. The subject of Hindu castes is a very large one indeed; but it will only be very briefly treated in the present chapter for several reasons. In the first place, it was no part of the programme drawn up by the committee who were appointed to consider and report upon the proposed census of 1881 that the subject of Hindu castes should be discussed at any length in the provincial Census reports. Their recommendations will be found in paragraph 37 of their report, where the matter is carefully discussed, but the spirit of them will be caught from the following extracts:—

"We do not propose any specific table for the distribution of the people by castes. In the enumerations of previous years, at all events from 1865, in the North-Western Provinces, an attempt has been made, while the work of compilation was going on, to classify the people according to caste and sect. This has in every instance added very largely to the labour of the census compilation, and has not, we consider, been attended with results adequate to the labour involved. Previous to 1865 it was considered sufficient to tabulate the population according to religion only. Following the precedent of later enumerations, we have provided in the schedule the means of collecting information in regard to the castes and sects prevailing among the inhabitants of the British Indian empire. But we hesitate to recommend that the information so recorded should be brought together in more than major detail in the tables to be used for setting forth the results of the census. As officers who have had much practical experience in this direction, we have no hesitation in saying that there is no part of the work of compilation which presents so many difficulties, involves so much labour, and at the same time is so unsatisfactory when completed, as the working up of the caste tables. They add enormously, and we think needlessly, to the bulk of the reports, and the frequent occurrence of unknown or illegible subdivisions of caste in the enumerators' schedules involves the Census Office in endless correspondence, and encourages the fudging of the abstracts by the clerks employed in compilation.

* * *

"There are doubtless lines of enquiry in connection with caste which, if carefully followed up, might add much interesting information to our knowledge of native life. * * But we do not consider it advisable that they should find a place in the tables or reports relating properly to the enumeration of the people. These are all objects of special enquiry, and can be treated best by specialists. If they were all or any of them included in the scope of enquiry to which the Census Officer is restricted, the task assigned to him would be far more than he could accomplish."

316. The decided opinions thus recorded by the most experienced Census Officers in India received the approval of the Government of India and of the Secretary of State, as did their recommendation that details should be given in the table only of those castes which numbered 100,000 or more in the province. In Bengal an additional table has been prepared (numbered XXVI), showing the details of the smaller castes, but there is no ground for transgressing in the report itself the lines laid down by the Census Committee.

317. Secondly, the interest of the caste question being much more ethnological than statistical, its elaborate examination in a report of this character

would be out of place. The Census Committee held this view strongly, for they say "we are inclined to think that the statistics on this head, if it be thought desirable to group them together, should form the subject of a special compilation, to be undertaken by an antiquarian rather than a statistical authority, and entirely independent of, and apart from, the establishment or officer employed in tabulating the census figures." Moreover, it so happens that since the census was taken the establishment of a special enquiry into the castes of the people has been suggested by the Government of India, and will probably be set on foot by the Government of Bengal. Under these circumstances, any disquisition on the castes of Bengal would be unnecessary and premature besides being imperfect, inasmuch as not sufficient leisure has been afforded for the wide research which is a condition precedent to satisfactory treatment of the subject.

318. Lastly, although many enquiries have been made on the subject, hardly anything has been added to the ample store of information supplied by Mr. Beverley's chapter on the castes of Bengal in the Report of the Census of 1872, especially the admirable monograph by the late Mr. C. F. Magrath on the castes of Behar.

The large castes arranged in order.

319. Sixty-five castes and tribes in Bengal have 100,000 or more representatives, and they are arranged in order of numerical importance in the statement below, which also shows the ratio each large caste bears to the whole Hindu population.

No. 33.—Statement showing the Numbers of the Largest Hindu Castes, and the Proportion which each bears to 10,000 of the Hindu Population.

	Caste.	Numbers.	Proportion.		Caste.	Numbers.	Proportion.
	Gwalla	3,992,949	*878*		Jaliya	381,540	*83*
	Brahmin	2,754,100	*605*		Teor	349,117	*76*
	Kaibartha	2,100,379	*462*		Dom	343,246	*75*
	Koch	1,648,422	*362*		Jugi	340,342	*74*
	Chandal	1,576,076	*346*		Pod	325,756	*71*
	Kayasth	1,450,843	*318*		Madak	308,821	*67*
	Rajput	1,409,354	*310*	40	Hari	286,109	*62*
	Chamar	1,408,037	*309*		Nuniya	279,861	*61*
	Teli	1,298,922	*285*		Kol	257,863	*56*
10	Kurmi	1,213,422	*266*		Kewat	254,873	*56*
	Koeri	1,204,884	*265*		Tatwa	245,904	*54*
	Dossadh	1,134,388	*249*		Pan	241,478	*53*
	Babhan	1,031,591	*226*		Sonar	241,323	*53*
	Napit	941,052	*207*		Bhumij	227,167	*49*
	Baniya	904,526	*199*		Barui	218,812	*48*
	Bagdi	756,870	*166*		Muli	216,108	*47*
	Kumhar	698,247	*153*	50	Sonthal	203,254	*44*
	Tanti	673,343	*148*		Kharwar	195,242	*42*
	Lohar	672,947	*148*		Kulwar	190,068	*41*
20	Khandait	617,017	*135*		Sudra	189,467	*41*
	Kandu	608,910	*133*		Kalu	170,782	*37*
	Kahar	604,828	*133*		Pasi	164,595	*36*
	Sunri	589,021	*129*		Gond	160,722	*35*
	Baishnab	568,032	*124*		Bind	136,812	*30*
	Sadgop	557,047	*122*		Rajwar	130,448	*28*
	Dhobi	553,453	*121*		Kapali	127,058	*27*
	Mussahar	545,673	*120*	60	Mal	125,238	*27*
	Dhanuk	541,928	*119*		Kandara	120,806	*26*
	Chassa	534,061	*117*		Garori	112,400	*24*
30	Barhi	484,424	*106*		Tamoli	108,640	*23*
	Bauri	481,493	*105*		Ghatwal	108,226	*23*
	Mallah	470,676	*103*		Karan	106,332	*23*
	Bhuinya	463,656	*102*		Smaller castes	3,727,258	*820*
					Not stated	369,700	*81*

320. It will be seen that the Gwallas, or cowherd caste, head the list with half as many members again as the next caste on the roll—that of the Brahmins; while the whole total of the members of smaller castes takes up an intermediate position between these two figures. The Gwallas include the Gops of Bengal, the Ahirs of Behar, and the Gours of Orissa, these names being practically synonymous. The Kaibarthas, who stand third on the list, are the husbandmen of Lower Bengal, corresponding in this respect with the Koeris of Behar, who are eleventh in order of numbers. The Koch, who occupy the fourth place, afford a striking example of the way in which Hinduism is replenished. A century and a half ago the Koch Raja ruled a large territory in the north-east corner of Bengal, whose history is still enshrined in the name of Koch (or Cooch) Behar. The kingdom was dismembered about the middle of the last century, and its people, who had once a language and a religion of their own, largely recruited the opposite camps of Hinduism and Islam; while their language has been so completely abandoned that all the persons who at the census spoke Koch as their mother-tongue were 5,629 souls in Dacca and Mymensingh. Those who have been converted to Islam have been absorbed into the great fraternity of that religion, while those who have not accepted Mahomedanism are now to all intents and purposes low caste Hindus. The same may be said of the Chandal, Dossadh, Bagdi, Dhanuk, Bhuinya, Pasi, and other castes, who are certainly not of pure Aryan extraction, and who have traditions, corroborated by collateral evidence, of a time before the advent of the Aryan invader when they were either locally or temporarily a numerous and powerful people. The Kayasths stand sixth; and even if the Karans be added to them, their place would be the same. The latter are the Orissa Kayasths, and would have been shown with the Kayasths proper had not their numbers entitled them to a separate place. The great Rajput or Kshetriya caste stand seventh, with a total of something less than a million and a half of representatives. As will be shown below, their distribution is extremely local, most of those found outside Behar being males in service. The Chamars, including Mochis, are the tanners, leather-sellers, and shoemakers of Bengal; they form in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh the most numerous class in the Hindu community, and they, too, have traditions of prehistoric empire. The Telis, including Kolus and Tillis, are the oilmen, and their numbers and importance are not difficult to understand in a country where oil is not only a necessary for lighting, but an ingredient of the daily meal and an unguent for the body. The Kurmis and Koeris are the great cultivating castes of Behar, the latter especially being the best spade cultivators in the province, while the Kurmis are not always exclusively agricultural. The Dossadhs are a large and useful Behar caste, turning their hands to almost any kind of service. The true number of Babhans is probably somewhat understated at a little over a million, for they are a numerous people; but as their surname is Singh, like that of the Rajputs, and they have many clan names in common with that caste, it is not unlikely that some Babhans have been entered as Rajputs, and *vice versâ*. The remainder of the castes in the list require little special comment; they are for the most part well known, and all necessary particulars concerning them may be obtained by referring to Dr. Hunter's Statistical Account of Bengal or the Report on the Bengal Census of 1872.

Description of them.

321. The number of smaller castes returned as Others in Table No. VIII, but set forth in detail in Table No. XXVI, is 265, besides several still smaller castes and clans of doubtful position, which are grouped together again as Others in the smaller table. The most important of these are the Beldars (earthwork-labourers) 99,334, the Duliyas (palki-bearers) 96,110, the Mundas (an aboriginal tribe, of whom more hereafter) 95,587, and the Keoras (an agricultural tribe in Bengal) 92,697. In this table will be observed many names which are those of clans or families common to several castes, which, in the impossibility of allotting them to their proper castes, have been shown separately. It further contains many persons who have described themselves by nationality only, such as Bengali, Hindustani, Punjabi; so also with the names of occupations, which have frequently been given in lieu of that of caste, a custom which has no doubt arisen from the widespread and immemorial custom of each trade being monopolised by one or more castes. Thus, Sikalgar is not the name of any special caste, but denotes the profession of

Smaller castes. Table No. XXVI.

an armourer, or a burnisher of steel; Dafali—or the trade of a drumbeater—is one which is followed by several castes; the calling of Shikari, or fowler, may be adopted by more than one caste, though the term is generally applied to the bird-catcher caste. Other instances might be adduced, and will be found in the tables; but these will suffice to show the looseness of description which, together with the use of strange and unusual subdivisional or clan names, or euphemistic periphrases in the case of the lower castes, rendered the compilation of caste statistics extremely difficult.

Distribution of the principal castes.

322. In the following table details are given of the distribution of each large caste throughout the group of Feudatory States and the nine Divisions into which Bengal is parcelled out. The figures should be read horizontally, and show what proportion of every 100 members of each caste was found at the census in each of these sections of the country:—

No. 34.—Statement showing the Proportionate Distribution of each Large Caste through the different Divisions of Bengal.

Caste.	Division.									
	Burdwan.	Presidency.	Rajshahye.	Dacca.	Chittagong.	Patna.	Bhauqulpore.	Orissa.	Chota Nagpore.	Feudatory States.
Brahmin	16·86	9·99	2·57	7·34	2·32	31·40	7·68	14·30	4·46	3·03
Rajput	3·95	2·06	1·05	·60	·16	68·70	14·06	1·27	7·29	·81
Babhan	.....	.....	·66	.....	.....	72·73	22·76	.....	3·77	·05
Bagdi	66·26	23·50	4·24	1·09	·05	.....	1·02	·58	·97	2·24
Baniya	14·67	9·52	4·79	4·36	1·77	26·85	16·65	7·64	8·17	5·54
Barhi	9·68	8·31	4·73	10·42	3·33	32·60	12·35	8·60	8·04	1·59
Barui	9·89	15·30	3·13	19·87	5·61	26·16	13·26	2·05	4·57	·12
Bauri	50·19	1·59	·36	·26	.....	.....	4·05	27·95	14·77	·78
Bind	·14	1·63	1·46	·32	.....	72·20	22·80	·12	1·23	·01
Chamar	9·28	14·57	1·70	3·09	·42	48·99	13·65	1·76	5·68	·79
Chandal	4·39	25·05	8·33	54·34	6·60	.....	·34	.....	·08	·33
Chassa	·06	·51	·19	·02	·17	.....	1·25	70·23	·13	27·40
Dhanuk	·05	·92	·02	.....	.....	47·69	50·45	.....	·56	·27
Dhobi	12·02	8·80	1·56	10·82	7·80	23·75	12·42	13·00	6·24	3·54
Dom	35·69	5·32	2·10	·84	3·00	16·48	21·49	2·58	10·17	2·29
Dossadh	·15	·74	·62	·04	.....	73·10	19·68	.....	5·59	·05
Gareri	·32	1·15	·22	·06	.....	74·97	15·93	·60	6·36	·36
Ghatwal	·62	2·06	1·18	·14	·05	3·85	50·45	.....	40·24	1·37
Gwalla	6·59	5·96	·97	1·46	·35	46·19	19·89	7·25	6·90	4·28
Hari	32·29	6·80	20·52	1·39	2·23	·73	19·93	6·55	4·77	4·74
Jaliya	13·04	23·89	22·04	29·66	9·55	·02	·73	·03	·31	·69
Jugi	6·27	16·67	5·92	25·54	35·57	2·67	1·90	2·38	1·18	1·83
Kahar	1·57	3·45	2·00	1·71	·65	59·05	18·37	·11	12·46	·58
Kaibartha	53·20	22·11	8·40	8·41	3·37	·01	3·74	·28	·28	·14
Kalu	49·88	23·20	2·66	1·22	·62	.....	7·79	.....	14·56	·04
Kalwar	05	·39	·10	.....	.....	66·58	27·87	·02	3·65	1·27
Karmakar	18·40	10·33	4·31	7·52	1·87	27·68	9·80	4·99	11·41	3·56
Kandara	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	95·72	·09	4·18
Kandu	·42	·75	·44	·32	·02	70·10	17·16	6·46	3·17	1·10
Kapali	2·46	46·08	6·84	38·86	5·15	.....	·20	·27	.....	.....
Karan	2·68	·10	·01	.....	.....	.....	.....	88·10	·31	8·77
Kayasth	13·51	16·43	4·71	25·73	12·39	19·84	4·83	·64	1·61	·26
Kewat	1·82	·14	·11	.....	·14	21·44	22·82	38·23	1·30	13·94
Khandait	·23	·42	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	88·23	·16	10·93
Koeri	·24	·18	·19	·03	·04	75·44	17·86	.....	5·69	·27
Kumbar	10·88	9·86	4·76	7·84	2·78	24·66	15·97	6·64	11·45	5·13
Kurmi	5·18	1·42	1·10	·45	·04	56·19	8·95	·06	23·40	3·17
Madak	14·67	12·56	10·01	2·64	·44	26·95	20·23	4·00	7·94	·50
Mali	8·15	9·19	5·44	13·92	4·88	25·10	11·28	10·45	5·30	6·25

Caste.	Division.									
	Burdwan.	Presidency.	Rajshahye.	Dacca.	Chittagong.	Patna.	Bhaugulpore.	Orissa.	Chota Nagpore.	Feudatory States.
Mallah	3·58	*5·45*	1·87	*·82*	·07	*69·83*	13·57	*·47*	3·32	*·96*
Mal	26·68	*20·67*	3·93	*26·28*	3·85	.....	17·08	.....	1·48	.....
Mussahar	.....	*·19*	·08	*·02*	.....	*50·39*	46·33	.....	2·60	*35*
Napit	11·69	*11·21*	5·92	*13·30*	5·34	*23·34*	12·85	*7·67*	6·23	*2·38*
Nuniya	1·79	*·42*	1·31	*·81*	.....	*82·58*	8·95	*·25*	3·33	*·50*
Pan	·01	.....	·02	*·01*	.....	.....	.....	*61·02*	·31	*38·59*
Pasi	·73	*1·51*	·60	*·03*	.....	*73·73*	15·60	*3·54*	3·91	*·32*
Pod	9·21	*90·35*	·05	.....	·01	.....	·11	*·17*	·06	.....
Rajwar	14·07	*·72*	·32	*·03*	.....	*42·46*	5·08	.....	26·18	*11·09*
Sadgop	78·30	*17·61*	1·34	*·73*	·03	.....	·95	*·19*	·75	*·04*
Sonar	7·58	*8·72*	·14	*·76*	·07	*55·80*	20·53	.....	5·79	*·57*
Sudra	·01	.....	·01	*29·96*	21·86	.....	.....	*44·64*	.....	*3·49*
Sunri	12·11	*11·32*	8·42	*26·07*	7·00	*13·35*	10·33	*1·28*	8·01	*2·06*
Tamoli	43·86	*6·48*	1·51	*1·00*	·12	*23·94*	10·05	*6·18*	6·03	*·79*
Tanti	30·83	*9·52*	3·97	*3·51*	1·20	*10·27*	15·93	*14·90*	5·41	*4·41*
Tatwa	.....	*·07*	·01	.....	.....	*60·97*	37·85	.....	·57	*·49*
Teli	17·64	*5·03*	2·16	*3·51*	1·08	*33·59*	15·06	*11·27*	6·67	*3·94*
Teor	9·32	*15·10*	38·74	*2·32*	·02	*1·26*	16·52	*·84*	·27	*15·56*
Bhuinya	5·72	*·56*	·45	*·03*	·01	*22·21*	17·24	*·86*	40·02	*12·85*
Bhumij	19·41	*2·79*	3·45	*·11*	·14	.....	1·71	*1·22*	60·69	*10·47*
Gond	.....	*·01*	.....	.....	.....	*18·49*	·97	*19·97*	2·59	*57·94*
Kharwar	2·22	*·16*	·43	*·04*	·04	*6·42*	10·25	*·59*	65·08	*14·71*
Koch	·52	*2·51*	67·57	*2·93*	·17	.....	8·04	.....	·05	*18·17*
Kol	.....	*·02*	·18	.....	.....	.....	1·35	*·41*	73·92	*24·09*
Santhal	13·39	*·88*	3·62	.....	.....	.....	4·33	*·16*	68·07	*8·92*
Baishnab	31·62	*19·00*	16·18	*8·46*	1·96	*2·87*	4·37	*10·69*	3·13	*1·70*

Ubiquitous castes. Their character.

323. Thirty castes have representatives in every Division in the province, and a reference to their names in the margin will show that they are all castes of general utility, whose services are indispensable to that microcosm the Bengal village. The Brahmin has a home in every hamlet as family or temple priest, or in secular employ as teacher, orderly, or other superior service. The Rajput plays a similar secular part. Wherever half a dozen huts cluster together, there the Baniya sets up his petty shop and opens his loan business. No village is complete without its oilman (Teli) or its carpenter (Barhi), who mends its ploughs, builds its houses, and supplies the wood for the cremation of its dead. Not less necessary is the cobbler (Chamar), who skins the carcasses of the village cattle, makes the cartman's whips, and keeps in repair the shoes of the community, while his wife has the monopoly of obstetric practice. The washerman (Dhobi) and the barber (Napit) are as indispensable to a people hedged round by ceremonial observances as the scavengers (Dom, Hari) are to remove unclean substances and to maintain an affectation of anitation. The services of the blacksmith (Karmakar or Lohar) are in daily requisition, and the potter (Kumhar) makes the earthen plates and bowls, which nine-tenths of the people use for cooking and for eating from. The confectioner (Madak and Kandu) is a necessity among a people whose food is almost wholly farinaceous, and who are often obliged to have it in a portable form and to eat it under the shadow of a tree or by the roadside whenever they find the leisure to do so. The petty luxuries of village life are provided by the Sunri, who sells wine, and the Barui and Tamoli, who grow

Brahmin.	Kandu.
Rajput.	Kayasth.
Baniya.	Kumhar.
Barhi.	Kurmi.
Barui.	Madak.
Chamar.	Mali.
Dhobi.	Mallah.
Dom.	Napit.
Gwalla.	Sunri.
Hari.	Tamoli.
Jaliya.	Tanti.
Jugi.	Teli.
Kahar.	Teor.
Kaibartha.	Bhuinya.
Karmakar.	Kharwar.

and vend the aromatic pan-leaf and the astringent betel-nut, so dear to native palates. The Tanti and the Jugi weave the coarse clothes which the village folk wear, and the Mali grows the flowers for the local shrine or the frequent domestic festival, as well as the better kind of vegetables with which the villager mends his coarse fare. All these artisans work for a community whose main ingredients are cultivators and herdsmen. The agricultural element, from which few castes are altogether dissociated, is mainly supplied by Kaibarthas in Bengal, Kurmis in Behar, and Chassas in Orissa. The Gwalla is a familiar and frequent figure in every corner of the land. The cow is to the Hindu much more than the camel to the Arab, and it fills a large place in every phase of his daily life. As the list in the preceding paragraph shows, the Gwallas are the most numerous caste in the province, and they are largely represented in every Division but three—those of Rajshahye, Dacca, and Chittagong, where the large proportion of Mahomedans more than accounts for their rarity. The great rivers of Bengal support a numerous race of boatmen (Mallah), and the craving for fish among a people to most of whom other animal food is interdicted either by necessity or prejudice employs as large a number of fishermen (Mullah and Teor). The Kahar is ubiquitous, sometimes as a carrier of palkies, and therefore indispensable at all weddings or as a domestic servant. The Kayasth, who once shared with the Brahmin the monopoly of learning, still thrives in every hamlet from Patna to Cuttack as the schoolmaster, the village accountant, or the landlord's confidential secretary. Lastly, the shifting population of the community—the daily labourers and field hands—are supplied by two castes of aboriginal race, the Bhuinyas and the Kharwars, the former of whom Mr. Magrath thought were once the autochthones of Behar, while the latter name, besides being that of a large separate tribe, is an alternative epithet for one subdivision of the Sonthals.

Local castes.

324. On the other hand, several of these castes, although so numerous, are very local, twenty-one of them having more than 60 per cent of their number settled within the limits of a single Division. The Chota Nagpore Division contains 60·69 per cent of the Bhumij, 65·08 per cent of the Kharwars, 68·07 of the Sonthals, and 73·92 per cent, or nearly 3 in every 4, of the Kols. Inaccessible Orissa, girt with mountain, river, and sea, has a similar monopoly —six great castes which hardly exist elsewhere, viz. the Chassas (the great cultivating caste of that province), 70·23 per cent; the Kandaras, 95·72 per cent; the Karans, 88·10 per cent, who are the Kayasths of the country; the Khandaits, 88·23 per cent, a sturdy race of yeomen farmers, whom the invasions of the Mogul and the Mahratta called to life; and the Pans, 61·02 per cent, who are to the Uriyas what the Sunris, the Pasis, and the other liquor-selling castes are in Bengal and Behar. The mixed character of the inhabitants of the Bhaugulpore Division is strikingly attested by the fact that it seems to possess no great indigenous castes, but has of them all a certain proportion, which is greatest in the direction of Patna. That Division, on the other hand, is the home of many of the most characteristic castes in the Hindu community. It is the cradle of the Rajputs, 68·70 per cent of whom live within its limits, and of the Babhans (70·73 per cent), who, whether they be, as some believe, a class of Military Brahmins, or the fruits of union between the Brahmin and the Gwalla or the Rajput and the Gwalla, are little inferior to either of those noble castes in character or physique. Its close ethnological connection with the North-Western Provinces and Oudh is attested by its large proportion of the Chamar caste, who are the most numerous representatives of the Hindu in those provinces. The Dossadhs (73·10 per cent) and the Binds (72·20 per cent), though now low castes, were formerly important peoples. For the rest the other castes which are most largely represented in this Division are local artisan castes, which have their counterparts elsewhere under another name: thus the Kalwar of Patna (66·58 per cent) is the Sunri of Bengal; the Pasi (73·73 per cent) is the Pan of Orissa; and the Kandu (70·10 per cent) corresponds to the Madak further east. Instead of the Kaibartha, as in Bengal, the Koeri (75·44 per cent) is the great cultivating caste of Patna; the Mullahs' boats (69·83 per cent) take the place of the canoes of the Jaliya and the Teor; and the webs of the Tatwa supplant the cloths of the Jugi. Lastly, the local circumstances of the Division obtain for it a predominance in two castes of special employment—the manufacture of

coarse salt and saltpetre gives employment to 82·58 per cent of all the Nuniyas in the province, and its dry climate and open downs favour the homely slighted shepherds trade of the Gareris (74·97 per cent). Between the Divisions of Bengal proper there is so strong a general similarity in their climate, and in the races, manners, and language of their inhabitants, that the absence of broad caste distinctions is not to be wondered at. In point of fact, in all the five Divisions there are only four instances in which one has a large predominance of a special caste. The Koch, whose home it has always been, have 67·57 per cent of their number in the Rajshahye Division; the Pods have 90·35 per cent of their total in the Presidency Division, nearly all of whom are found in the district of the 24-Pergunnahs; while the Burdwan Division has the majority of Bagdis (66·26 per cent) and of Sadgops (78·30 per cent).

Proportion of the Sexes in the Principal castes.

325. The table in the margin shows for each of the large castes the proportion which exists between the sexes. This information is of the first importance wherever female infanticide or polyandry is suspected to exist in any special castes. In Bengal there is no ground for apprehending the practice of either of these customs, yet the figures are not without interest. That the Baishnabs should have the largest proportion of women to men is significant of the fact that persons who do not recognise caste distinctions have naturally little repugnance to answering correctly questions concerning their family. But it may also be noticed that it is a common practice among public women to assume the style of Baishnabs; while the similarity between that name and the word Vaisya, which denotes their profession, is near enough to have led to some mistakes. On the other hand, it is significant that some of the castes, such as the Brahmins, Babhans, and Rajputs, who are most sensitive on the subject of their women, and upon whom the suspicion of withholding information rests most heavily, are at the bottom of the list.

No. 35.—Statement showing for each of the Large Castes the Proportion of Females to 1,000 Males.

Caste.	Proportion.	Caste.	Proportion.
Baishnab	1,102·79	Napit	1,016·77
Ghatwal	1,091·72	Kharwar	1,016·25
Karan	1,080·04	Kaibartha	1,014·63
Bind	1,077·85	Tanti	1,014·21
Dhanuk	1,067·56	Karmakar, or Lohar	1,011·17
Sudra	1,057·99	Chandal	1,009·16
Bauri	1,055·09	Barui	1,008·94
Kandu	1,053·82	Kalwar	1,007·90
Sadgop	1,051·17	Jaliya	1,007·47
Kahar	1,048·67	Hari	1,007·38
Tatwa	1,046·06	Mussahar	1,007·03
Mullah	1,045·21	Sonthal	1,006·31
Kayasth	1,042·42	Maduk	1,006·16
Bhumij	1,041·55	Jugi	1,004·31
Bhuinya	1,040·96	Kumhar	1,004·19
Dossadh	1,039·86	Pan	1,001·35
Khandait	1,039·59	Nuniya	1,000·22
Gareri	1,036·60	Kol	999·80
Bagdi	1,035·61	Pasi	997·19
Chamar	1,034·45	Koeri	996·88
Tamoli	1,034·38	Chassa	996·02
Teli	1,033·13	Gwalla	992·69
Kewat	1,031·78	Kandara	991·79
Rajwar	1,027·66	Babhan	991·75
Sunri	1,024·16	Brahmin	991·30
Sonar	1,023·51	Teor	982·12
Barhi	1,022·57	Kapali	978·07
Dom	1,021·66	Mali	976·67
Gond	1,021·48	Rajput	970·61
Kalu	1,018·50	Pod	969·59
Kurmi	1,018·20	Koch	965·25
Baniya	1,017·76	Mal	963·43
Dhobi	1,016·78		

Classification of the castes.

326. The classification of the Hindu castes was not decided without careful consideration. It was at first suggested that the primæval and obsolete arrangement of them should be adopted, and that the Hindus should be shown under four great heads, as Brahmins, Kshatryas, Vaisyas, and Sudras. This proposal was, however, successfully combated by the Census Committee, who suggested in their turn that Hindus should be shown as Brahmins, Kshatryas,

and Others. Further correspondence led to the decision that the Hindus should be shown under five great heads—as Brahmins, Rajputs, Castes of good social position, Castes of inferior position, Aboriginal tribes and clans—and this arrangement was accepted. Finally, however, the practical difficulty of carrying out on any uniform principle this grading of castes was found to be so great that it was abandoned, and the existing classification substituted for it, which divides all Hindus into Brahmins, Rajputs, Other Hindu castes, Aboriginal tribes and clans, Hindus not recognising caste, and Hindus of unspecified caste, the last two divisions being added in Bengal to complete the symmetry of the tables. In these provinces it was hoped that the classification adopted by Mr. Beverley in his report on the census of 1872 would again be sanctioned; but the paramount necessity of maintaining uniformity in the system of caste classification throughout India compelled the Census Commissioner to negative the request. Bengal perhaps more than any other province except the Central Provinces has a large population which throngs the debateable land between the Hindus and the pure aborigines. To mistake the pure Hindu or the pure aboriginal is impossible for any one who has given the smallest attention to ethnological questions. But the proper position of a large number of intermediate tribes or castes is one of great doubt and difficulty. This difficulty Mr. Beverley happily evaded by classifying them all in a group by themselves as "Semi-Hinduised aborigines." The true aboriginal class was then reserved for those who still speak a language of their own, whose faith and whose customs are not Hindu, and whose separation from Hinduism is not merely a speculative question for philologists, but a fact recognised by the State and demanding exceptional administrative treatment. This classification, as has been said, was not accepted by the Census Commissioner, and therefore all semi-Hinduised aboriginals had to be shown either as aboriginals or Hindus. Under these circumstances they have for the most part been shown in the caste tables as low-caste Hindus, in order that a sharp line of demarcation between the purely aboriginal races and the Hindus of whatever caste or grade might be distinctly maintained.

Castes arranged according to their general occupation.

327. This classification, however, though negatived for the imperial tables, has been worked out separately, and the table at the end of this chapter will show details of the castes arranged according to the classification adopted in 1872. An abstract of the figures is given in the margin, but for full particulars reference must be made to the table. No interference has been made with Mr. Beverley's classification, which, as will be seen, divided the population returned as Hindus into eighteen groups, besides the group of Asiatics other than natives of the Indian empire. The classification is open to the objection that it involves a cross division, viz. by origin and by occupation; but the difficulty was unavoidable, and if

No. 36.—*Statement showing the Distribution of the Hindus in* 1872 *and* 1881 *according to Caste Occupations.*

Caste Groups.	1872.	1881.	Percentage to total in 1881.	Loss(−)and gain(+)in 1881.
I.—Asiatics other than Natives of the Indian Empire	45,345	*38,319*	·08	*7,026*
II.—Natives of the Indian Empire ...	.....	.....	.....	... ..
(a)—Aboriginal tribes	2,738,813	*1,365,215*	3·00	*−1,373,598*
(b)—Semi-Hinduised aboriginals	9,474,243	*10,618,451*	23·36	*+1,144,208*
(c)—Hindus proper	.....	.....	.....	.....
1. Superior Hindu castes	4,225,330	*4,897,426*	10·77	*+672,096*
2. Intermediate ,, ...	2,783,517	*2,777,124*	6·10	*−6,393*
3. Trading ,, ...	759,436	*963,159*	2·11	*+203,723*
4. Pastoral ,, ...	3,588,126	*4,115,377*	9·05	*+527,251*
5. Castes engaged in preparing cooked food	851,832	*924,984*	2·03	*+73,152*
6. Agricultural castes	6,544,044	*6,875,197*	15·12	*+331,153*
7. Castes engaged in personal service	2,490,710	*2,804,003*	6·16	*+313,293*
8. Artisan castes	4,235,565	*4,482,471*	9·86	*+246,906*
9. Weaver ,, ...	1,678,523	*1,619,344*	3·56	*−59,179*
10. Labouring ,, ...	440,955	*546,839*	1·20	*+105,884*
11 Costermonger, ,, ...	140,796	*142,417*	·31	*+1,621*
12. Boating and fishing ,, ...	2,169,130	*2,131,433*	4·68	*+37,697*
13. Dancer, musician, and vagabond castes	73,160	*43,255*	·09	*−29,905*
(d)—Persons enumerated by nationality only	70,135	*48,114*	·10	*−22,021*
(e)—Hindus not recognising caste	663,476	*683,227*	1·50	*+19,751*
(f)—Hindus, caste not stated ...	430,475	*376,451*	·82	*−54,024*

it be admitted that the aboriginal and semi-Hinduised aboriginals may be described as labouring castes, the objection falls in a great measure to the ground.

Proportion of the classes in the Hindu community

328. Looking, first, at the figures for 1881, the most obvious point to the observer is the large proportion of the class of which mention has just been made, viz. the semi-Hinduised aborigines. Accepting the distribution made by Mr. Beverley in 1872, they now appear to number nearly one-fourth of the Hindu population. They are for the most part hewers of wood and drawers of water, and are beyond cavil the remnants of the nations whom successive invaders, culminating with the Aryans, found in possession of the country and absorbed more or less into their system of polity. Those of the aboriginal tribes which were most remote from the scene of the invasion, or were so situated as to be able to withstand it, have retained to this day their primæval language and customs and their tribal faiths. Those, on the other hand, who were most exposed to the wave of conquest, who were least able to resist, or who were most ready to amalgamate with the newcomers, were absorbed into their community, but relegated to its lowest grades and employed in its most menial offices. Such was the treatment which the inhabitants of the country received at the hands of the Hindu invaders. The question of absorption is only one of time and opportunity. Many of the castes shown as low-caste Hindus, and now universally accepted as such, have peculiarities which give rise to the suspicion that they are not pure Hindus of the Aryan type; but they are to all intents and purposes low-caste Hindus, and are treated as such without question. The class of semi-Hinduised aborigines are only a stage behind them in their progress towards Hinduism. What many of the low-caste Hindus once were the semi-Hinduised aboriginals now are, and in the lapse of time they too will recruit the ranks of the Hindus as intermarriage and social intercourse gradually obliterate more and more their distinctive characteristics.

329. The superior castes of the old classification, including the priestly and military castes, amount to nearly 11 per cent of the community, but the purely agricultural castes among the Hindus stand before them in point of numbers with nearly seven million souls and a proportion of 15·12 per cent. It must not be supposed, however, that these figures represent the total agricultural community. So far from this being the case, the figures in Table XXI (page 540 of Appendix B) show that the proportion of the whole population dependent on and connected with agriculture is 60·84 per cent. Almost every caste in the province cultivates land in addition to its own peculiar caste calling, and the castes shown under the head of agriculturists are those whose sole and special occupation it is. The pastoral castes are not much inferior in number to the agricultural in a country where horned cattle play so important a part in the life of the people. The artisans who supply the wants of the community are in the proportion of 9·86 per cent if the weavers are excluded, or more than 13 per cent if they are admitted. Personal service is the special occupation of castes who are 6·16 per cent of the whole.

Numbers of each class in 1872 and 1881.

330. A comparison of the figures for each group in 1872 and in 1881 shows some remarkable variations. The deficiency in the pure aboriginals and the augmentation in the numbers of the semi-Hinduised aboriginals gives point to the statement already often made that the upward tendency to Hinduism is strong and progressive. In many other cases the increase is natural, and is only a part of the general advance which has taken place in the population during the last nine years. In several cases, however, especially in those where there has been a falling off, this explanation will not serve, and it can only be said that there must have been radical differences in the system upon which the castes, and especially the subdivision of castes, were classified in 1872 and in 1881. At the census just taken every effort was made to secure accurate arrangement of castes, but it was inevitable that many unintelligible names should be recorded by the enumerators, and that mistakes should be made by the compiling clerks in the allotment of obscure or illegible clans. It is hoped that these errors will be rendered impossible at the next census by the preparation of a report on the castes of Bengal which shall show their origin and classification, as well as the ramifications of the same caste in different parts of the country, and will give an exhaustive list of the subdivisions of each caste and of their numerous synonyms. For the

present it can only be said that considerable differences exist between the caste totals of 1872 and 1881, which it is now impossible to reconcile.

No. 37.—Statement showing the Castes of Hindus arranged according to their Occupations.

Caste.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.
I.—ASIATICS, OTHER THAN NATIVES OF INDIA AND BRITISH BURMA.			
Bhutia	*175*	79	254
Bant	*207*	164	371
Ghalia	*138*	51	189
Gharti	*1,106*	835	1,941
Guli	*286*	260	546
Gurka	*1,858*	1,040	2,898
Gurung	*2,282*	2,107	4,389
Jemadar	*353*	193	546
Kami	*2,214*	1,564	3,778
Kambu	*2,491*	2,155	4,646
Limbu	*1,594*	944	2,538
Mangar	*3,917*	2,856	6,773
Manipuri	*10*	7	17
Nepali	*2,595*	1,848	4,443
Newar	*1,285*	780	2,065
Pradhan	*192*	185	377
Sunawar	*1,107*	822	1,929
Thappa	*95*	26	121
Tibetan	*16*	7	23
Yakka	*295*	180	475
Total ...	22,216	16,103	38,319
II.—NATIVES OF INDIA AND BRITISH BURMA.			
(*a*)—Aboriginal Tribes.			
Asur	*125*	100	225
Bhar	*10,394*	10,476	20,870
Bhumij	*110,782*	115,385	226,167
Birhor	*749*	790	1,539
Boyar	*732*	842	1,574
Brijia	*2,054*	1,872	3,926
Chakma	*11*	4	15
Cheru	*7,900*	7,765	15,665
Dhangar	*19,795*	18,689	38,484
Dhanpore	*504*	467	971
Dhimal	*678*	649	1,327
Garrow	*108*	90	198
Gond	*79,507*	81,215	160,722
Juang	*259*	270	529
Khandh	*18,923*	17,988	36,911
Karni	*160*	149	309
Kaur	*13,711*	13,398	27,109
Kawar	*223*	258	481
Khanjhar	*2,586*	2,407	4,993
Kharria	*11,385*	10,971	22,356
Khassia	*662*	565	1,227
Khodai	*5*	4	9
Kish	*13,400*	13,085	26,485
(*a*)—Aboriginal Tribes—*concluded.*			
Kol	*128,914*	128,889	257,803
Korwa	*3,836*	5,125	8,961
Kuki	*1,019*	1,083	2,102
Lepcha	*21*	5	26
Lushai	.....	2	2
Mech	*5,955*	4,233	9,288
Morung	*564*	562	1,126
Munda	*48,281*	47,306	95,587
Murmi	*2,848*	2,280	5,128
Naga	*5,326*	5,605	10,931
Naiya	*646*	640	1,286
Nat	*12,653*	13,907	26,560
Oraon	*23,204*	22,434	45,638
Pahari	*3,262*	2,904	6,166
Puran	*7,932*	8,001	15,933
Rautia	*14,099*	13,593	27,692
Reang	*461*	439	900
Saont	*2,188*	2,149	4,337
Sonthal	*101,312*	101,952	203,264
Táála	*6,308*	6,653	12,961
Tamaria	*2,146*	2,142	4,288
Tharu	*8,949*	8,160	17,109
Tikayat	*53*	42	95
Tipperah	*8,426*	7,714	16,140
Total ...	682,156	683,059	1,365,215
(*b*)—Semi-Hinduised Aboriginals.			
Bagdi	*371,808*	385,062	756,870
Baheliya	*7,268*	6,570	13,838
Balai	*4,365*	3,952	8,317
Bari	*13,603*	14,155	27,758
Batar	*1,345*	1,203	2,548
Bathudi	*12,253*	11,957	24,210
Bauri	*234,292*	247,201	481,493
Bediya	*9,081*	8,995	18,076
Bhuimali	*26,866*	27,228	54,094
Bhuinya	*227,175*	236,481	463,656
Bind	*65,843*	70,969	136,812
Buna	*24,786*	23,683	48,469
Byadh	*1,178*	1,068	2,246
Chain	*47,515*	47,800	95,315
Chamar	*692,097*	715,940	1,408,037
Chandal	*784,445*	791,631	1,576,076
Chik	*14,775*	14,309	29,084
Dai	*1,254*	1,379	2,633
Dalui	*2,410*	2,433	4,843
Dom	*169,784*	173,402	343,246
Dossadh	*556,108*	578,280	1,134,388
Gangaunta	*42,770*	45,353	88,123

Caste.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.
(*b*)—Semi-Hinduised Aboriginals—*concluded.*			
Ghasi	*20,881*	20,900	41,781
Ghusuria	*2,306*	2,505	4,811
Hadihatri	*8,271*	8,136	16,407
Hari	*142,528*	143,581	286,109
Jetur	*181*	156	337
Kadar	*2,997*	3,211	6,208
Kandara	*60,702*	60,204	120,906
Keora	*46,829*	45,868	92,697
Khaira	*24,199*	25,370	49,569
Kharwar	*96,834*	98,408	195,242
Khoria	*1,337*	1,347	2,684
Khyen	*11,563*	12,235	23,798
Koch	*838,783*	809,639	1,648,422
Kodmal	*12,536*	12,227	24,763
Koranga	*4,213*	4,354	8,567
Labhana	*56*	81	137
Mahili	*13,726*	13,905	27,631
Mal	*63,785*	61,453	125,238
Maler	*1,106*	1,282	2,388
Mal Paharia	*6,476*	6,784	13,260
Mandai	*6,341*	6,277	12,618
Markande	*6,409*	6,948	13,357
Mehtar	*33,446*	31,885	65,331
Mukhari	*164*	167	331
Mushahar	*271,880*	273,793	545,673
Pan	*120,657*	120,821	241,478
Pandit	*303*	357	660
Pasi	*82,413*	82,182	164,595
Rajwar	*64,334*	66,114	130,448
Shikari	*1,011*	1,075	2,086
Turi	*15,155*	15,632	30,787
Total ...	5,272,443	5,346,008	10,618,451
(*c*)—Hindus.			
1. Superior Castes.			
Brahmin	*1,383,061*	1,371,039	2,754,100
Deswali	*2,024*	1,982	4,006
Ghatwal	*51,740*	56,486	108,226
Khandait	*302,519*	314,498	617,017
Khandwal	*2,393*	2,330	4,723
Rajput	*715,150*	694,204	1,409,354
Total ...	2,456,887	2,440,539	4,897,426
2. Intermediate Castes.			
Adhikari	*545*	606	1,151
Babhan	*517,886*	513,615	1,031,501
Baidya	*41,563*	43,427	84,990
Barnosankar	*274*	255	529
Bhat	*30,039*	31,854	61,893
Dogla	*121*	120	241
Karan	*51,120*	55,212	106,332
Kathiok	*840*	889	1,729

Caste.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.
2. Intermediate Castes—concluded.			
Kayasth	*710,353*	740,490	1,450,843
Kishanpanchi	*170*	220	390
Mahanti	*4,295*	4,270	8,565
Patali	*387*	434	821
Sagirdpesha	*13,091*	15,048	28,139
Total ...	1,370,684	1,406,440	2,777,124
3. Trading Castes.			
Baniya	*448,281*	456,245	904,526
Kumti	*1,512*	1,445	2,957
Muriyari	*2,051*	2,046	4,097
Nuniyar	*20,243*	21,730	41,973
Panwaria	*107*	103	210
Suratwala	*38*	38	76
Vaisya	*4,342*	4,978	9,320
Total ...	476,574	486,585	963,159
4. Pastoral Castes.			
Bhartia	*74*	67	141
Gandhari	*1,559*	1,553	3,112
Gareri	*55,190*	57,210	112,400
Gordha	*1,487*	1,363	2,850
Gujar	*20*	21	41
Gwalla	*2,003,797*	1,989152	3,992,949
Jat	*1,941*	1,943	3,884
Total ...	2,064,068	2,051,309	4,115,377
5. Castes engaged in preparing cooked food.			
Kandu	*296,480*	312,439	608,919
Madak	*153,936*	154,885	308,821
Modia	*3,588*	3,656	7,244
Total ...	454,004	470,980	924,984
6. Agricultural Castes.			
Agaria	*4,204*	4,093	8,297
Aguri	*41,656*	44,789	86,445
Barui	*108,919*	109,893	218,812
Bhumik	*193*	175	368
Chassa	*267,562*	266,499	534,061
Chassadhopa	*16,363*	16,775	33,138
Chasati	*426*	516	942
Dass	*10,432*	9,781	20,213
Gollah	*29,828*	29,409	59,237
Hukar	*455*	436	891
Kaibartha	*1,042,563*	1,057,816	2,100,379
Kulita	*75*	72	147
Kumkar	*5,632*	6,365	11,997
Khamaru	*659*	696	1,355
Kanta	*393*	394	787

Caste.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.
6. Agricultural Castes—concluded.			
Khassia	*160*	161	321
Kharuli	*1,076*	1,031	2,107
Khetauri	*515*	540	1,055
Koiri	*603,443*	601,441	1,204,884
Kurar	*48*	26	74
Kurmi	*601,239*	612,183	1,213,422
Lodha	*3,787*	3,714	7,501
Mali	*109,329*	106,779	216,108
Mandal	*2,164*	2,221	4,385
Mullick	*2,914*	2,922	5,836
Murali	*714*	553	1,267
Nagar	*9,467*	10,633	20,100
Orha	*17,303*	17,273	34,576
Paik	*19,555*	19,020	38,575
Parith	*21*	14	35
Raju	*36,844*	36,659	73,503
Sadgop	*272,014*	285,933	557,947
Sarup	*450*	462	912
Savara	*41,359*	41,593	82,952
Sud	*12,512*	12,217	24,729
Sudra	*90,606*	95,861	186,467
Sukiar	*6,086*	6,646	12,732
Tamoli	*53,402*	55,238	108,640
Total ...	3,414,368	3,460,829	6,875,197
7. Castes chiefly engaged in personal service.			
Amanth	*21,776*	22,906	44,682
Bargha	*2,306*	2,524	4,830
Bhatia	*99*	66	165
Birghoria	*106*	102	208
Dhanuk	*262,109*	279,819	541,928
Dhobi	*274,424*	279,029	553,453
Duliya	*49,365*	46,745	96,110
Irika	*198*	218	416
Kahal	*220*	183	403
Kahar	*295,229*	309,599	604,828
Kunai	*6,986*	7,670	14,656
Mokhia	*209*	200	409
Napit	*466,613*	474,439	941,052
Sejna	*436*	427	863
Total ...	1,380,076	1,423,927	2,804,003
8. Artisan Castes.			
Barhi	*239,509*	244,915	484,424
Bhaskar	*262*	263	525
Chipigar	*495*	376	871
Chitrakar	*701*	682	1,383
Darzi	*2,908*	2,472	5,380
Gojiya	*132*	147	279
Kacharu	*2,275*	2,285	4,560
Kalal	*2,361*	2,425	4,786
Kalu	*84,608*	86,174	170,782
Kalwar	*94,660*	95,408	190,068
Kansari	*37,575*	38,281	75,856

Caste.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.
8 Artisan Castes—concluded.			
Karmakar	*334,604*	338,343	672,947
Karmali	*1,446*	1,446	2, 892
Kharura	*730*	759	1,489
Kumhar	*348,392*	349,855	698,247
Laheri	*9,883*	9,882	19,765
Pathuri	*3,030*	3,230	6,260
Sankhari	*5,728*	6,297	12,025
Sikalgar	*340*	327	667
Sonar	*119,259*	122,063	241,322
Sunri	*290,995*	298,026	589,021
Teli	*638,875*	660,047	1,298,922
Total ...	2,218,768	2,263,703	4,482,471
9. Weaver Castes.			
Benandia	*740*	782	1,522
Chapmal	*1,763*	1,828	3,591
Dhuniya	*1,185*	866	2,051
Ganesh	*16,892*	16,600	33,492
Hansi	*4,828*	4,813	9,641
Jugi	*169,805*	170,537	340,342
Julaha	*14,617*	15,386	30,003
Kapali	*64,233*	62,825	127,058
Kosta	*293*	285	578
Khatbe...	*23,068*	23,984	47,052
Kotal	*6,687*	7,129	13,816
Matibansi	*1,006*	1,009	2,015
Pator	*34*	19	53
Patwar	*26,094*	27,140	53,234
Rangwa...	*5,261*	5,004	10,265
Shukli	*10,905*	10,921	21,826
Tanti	*334,295*	339,048	673,343
Tatwa	*120,184*	125,720	245,904
Tulabhina	*1,756*	1,802	3,558
Total ...	803,646	815,698	1,619,344
10. Labouring Castes.			
Beldar	*49,331*	50,003	99,334
Challuk...	*37*	42	79
Chunari	*4,929*	4,859	9,788
Daimanjhi	*35*	30	65
Dhai	*187*	171	358
Dhuliya	*18,761*	19,259	38,020
Kora	*21,663*	21,902	43,565
Kurmetia	*1,011*	1,037	2,048
Maiti	*4,271*	4,173	8,444
Matiyal	*4,268*	4,092	8,360
Naik	*16,481*	16,961	33,442
Nuniya	*139,915*	139,946	279,861
Pairagh...	*1,774*	1,899	3,673
Patial	*2,060*	1,895	3,955
Samanta	*8,150*	7,697	15,847
Total ...	272,873	273,966	546,839

Caste.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.
11. Castes occupied in selling fish and vegetables.			
Khattik	*5,739*	5,780	11,519
Kunjra	*406*	362	768
Matia	*8,952*	9,618	18,570
Nikhari	*31*	23	54
Pandari	*11,588*	12,316	23,904
Pura	*4,535*	4,833	9,368
Turaha	*37,348*	40,886	78,234
Total ...	68,599	73,818	142,417
12. Boating and Fishing Castes.			
Banper	*3,771*	4,596	8,367
Bathua	*1,250*	1,019	2,269
Bkala	*625*	650	1,275
Chaudhari	*415*	263	678
Girgiria	*1,489*	1,585	3,074
Gokha	*15,871*	16,431	32,302
Gonrhi	*32,902*	33,315	66,217
Jaliya	*190,060*	191,480	381,540
Jhalo	*9,967*	9,487	19,454
Kajarhati	*18*	15	33
Kewat	*125,443*	129,430	254,873
Khattia	*980*	974	1,954
Koral	*23,245*	22,875	46,120
Let	*5,371*	6,114	11,485
Lowait	*214*	201	415
Machua	*3,740*	3,728	7,468
Muhadunda	*687*	783	1,470
Mallah	*230,135*	240,541	470,676
Manjhi	*32,521*	32,840	65,361
Patuni	*36,157*	35,856	72,013
Pod	*165,392*	160,363	325,755
Surahiya	*5,672*	3,845	9,517
Teor	*176,133*	172,984	349,117
Total ...	1,062,058	1,069,375	2,131,433
13. Dancer, musician, beggar, and vagabond castes.			
Bauti	*6,193*	6,333	12,526
Chukar	*564*	521	1,085
Dafali	*54*	46	100
Deyara	*36*	26	62

Caste.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.
***13. Dancer, musician, beggar, and vagabond castes*—concluded.**			
Dharhi	*2,192*	2,122	4,314
Gandharba	*4,589*	4,464	9,053
Gulgulia	*645*	640	1,285
Kalavant	*167*	140	307
Kan	*1,777*	1,670	3,447
Karali	*553*	580	1,133
Kela	*3,033*	3,202	6,235
Khelta	*211*	305	516
Murg	*79*	72	151
Nolia	*1,359*	1,360	2,719
Sampheriya	*178*	244	322
	21,630	21,625	43,255
14. Persons enumerated by nationality only.			
Assamese	*59*	32	91
Bengali	*4,216*	4,121	8,337
Hindustani	*6,910*	6,437	13,347
Kashmiri	*5*	8	13
Madrasi	*31*	32	63
Mahratta	*809*	848	1,657
Punjabi	*2*	.....	2
Sikh	*101*	22	123
Tamil	*12*	8	20
Telinga	*2,704*	2,388	5,092
Uriya	*10,373*	8,996	19,369
Total ...	25,222	22,892	48,114
D.—Persons of Hindu origin, not recognising castes.			
Atith	*29,935*	31,757	61,692
Aughar	*262*	303	565
Baishnab	*262,638*	305,394	568,032
Fakir	*14,123*	12,703	26,826
Giri	*176*	171	347
Gossain	*11,890*	11,172	23,062
Mohanta	*1,266*	1,213	2,479
Shakta	*80*	51	131
Sutrashahi	*29*	64	93
Total ...	320,399	362,828	683,227

CHAPTER X.

STATISTICS OF BIRTHPLACE AND LANGUAGE.

(Tables IX, X, and XI, pages 283 to 366 of Appendix B.)

Introductory.

331. The statistics which will be discussed in this chapter, and which form the subject-matter of the tables quoted above, are the outcome of the special recommendations made by the committee which sat in the year 1878 to consider the suggestions for a general census of India in 1881. In the 18th and subsequent paragraphs of their report the committee say:—

"The table of races and nationalities should, we think, be restricted to an exposition of the actual ethnical elements that go to make up the population of the country. In this view we consider that the information may be of great practical value. It would not only illustrate, as in the last census, the strength of the foreign element to be found in India, but it would throw further light upon the distribution of the natives themselves according to provincial and linguistic distinctions.

* * * * *

"An important question, however, is the definition of the term *nationality*. As regards foreigners, whose nationality is for the most part sufficiently pronounced, there is no difficulty; but it is not easy in the case of the various native races which inhabit the different provinces of India.

"Two tests instinctively suggest themselves, viz. those of *language* and *birthplace*; but it is clear that either of them is insufficient without the other.

* * * * *

"We propose therefore in the enumerator's return to give two sub-columns under *nationality*, so as to show both the language of birth and the place of birth. At the same time we do not conceal from ourselves that even this arrangement will not in all cases suffice to convey a correct idea of a person's race or nationality. We therefore propose to add a note to the heading "Place of Birth" for the instruction of the enumerators, to secure the insertion in that column of correct particulars regarding British-born subjects, foreigners, and persons of mixed parentage."

332. In making this recommendation, the committee do not appear to have given sufficient weight to the great difficulty of arriving at any clear conclusions from scrutinising a number of individual instances, each complicated by the innumerable combinations of two such varying factors as these. They recognised the fact that for any given person an examination of his recorded birthplace and language, combined with the evidence afforded by his name, would show, almost without the possibility of error, of what nationality he wa ; but they seem to have forgotten that the compiling staff would have neither the time nor the ability for this careful and intelligent scrutiny in the case of each unit in the enormous population of India, and that unless this scrutiny were applied, and the proper conclusion drawn in each case, no classification would be possible. The theory that nationality could be ascertained by the tests of birthplace and language was excellent, but in practice this examination could hardly have been carried out.

333. In point of fact, however, the attempt was never made, for the Government of India, in forwarding the committee's report to the Secretary of State for India, expressed its disapproval of the proposal to extract information as to nationality from the statistics of birthplace and mother-tongue, and recommended that the information gained under these heads should be

separately shown. The approval of the Secretary of State confirmed this decision, and the heading for "Nationality," as embracing the two subheads "Birthplace" and "Mother-tongue," was then struck out of the enumerator's schedule.

Birthplaces of the general population.

334. But though this decision has rendered superfluous any detailed examination of the combined statistics in order to ascertain the nationality of the people found in Bengal, the subject demands a brief consideration before we pass to details of the separate factors of which it is composed. The first glance, then, at Tables IX and X, "Language" and "Birthplace," will show how large a proportion of the inhabitants of Bengal were born within the province, how little outside emigration or immigration goes on, and, in a word, how homogeneous the population is. Out of the 69,536,861 persons found in Bengal on the night of the census, 68,746,084, or 98·86 per cent of the whole, had been born within the province. Of the remaining 790,777 persons, 487,059, or 61·59 per cent, had been born in other provinces of British India; 93,110, or 11·77 per cent, in the remainder of Asia; the birthplaces of 197,485 persons, or 24·96 per cent, were not traceable; and the European-born population was only 12,298, or 1·55 per cent. In other words, in every 10,000 persons 9,886 had been born within the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, 70 in other parts of the Indian empire, 13 in other countries of Asia, 28 were of undefined birthplace, and only 1 had been born in Europe, the remaining continents of the world combining to contribute an equal number. There is probably no country in the world whence emigration is so scanty, and in which the persons born outside its limits bear so small a proportion to the whole body of its inhabitants.

Their languages.

335. The figures showing the languages spoken lead to the same conclusion. After some discussion, the definition of the term "mother-tongue," which was given in the instructions to enumerators, was that it meant "the language ordinarily spoken in the parental home of each person;" and it is believed that the definition has proved quite satisfactory. The three great vernaculars of Bengal, viz. Bengali, Hindi (and Hindustani), and Uriya, are recorded as the mother-tongue of 66,666,869 persons, or 95·87 per cent of the whole; 2,383,234 persons, or 3·42 per cent, speak other Indian vernaculars: other Asiatic languages are spoken by 112,078 persons, or ·16 per cent; and European languages are the mother-tongue of 39,551 persons, or ·05 per cent of the total. It will be observed that the ratios to the whole which are borne by each class correspond very closely together, both under birthplace and mother-tongue; but the marginal table will show this in greater detail.

No. 38.—*Statement comparing the Statistics for Birthplace and Mother-tongue of all persons found in Bengal at the Census of* 1881.

Where Born.	Number.	Mother-tongue.	Number.
A. Within Bengal	68,746,084	A. Bengali, Hindustani, and Uriya.	66,666,869
		A. Other local vernaculars	2,383,234
B. Other parts of British India	487,059	B. Other Asiatic languages	112,078
B. Elsewhere in Asia	93,110		
Total in Asia ...	*69,326,253*	Total Asiatic Languages	*69,162,181*
C. In the United Kingdom, and in Africa, America, and Australasia.	11,408	C. English, &c.	37,640
D. Elsewhere in Europe ...	1,715	D. Other European languages.	1,911
E. Indefinite	197,485	E. Indefinite	335,120
Grand Total ...	69,536,861	Grand Total ...	69,536,861

336. In a continent where nearly 99 per cent of its inhabitants have been born within its limits, it would not be necessary to say much about its foreign population, were it not for the fact that they are the ruling race, and that as such all information in respect to them has an importance quite out of proportion to their numerical strength. Two or three points therefore deserve attention.

337. In the first place it will be noticed from the abstract in the margin that the number of European-born persons, other than those born in the United Kingdom, is very small indeed, and that the return of European languages spoken other than English corresponds almost exactly with their numbers. The difference of 200 is principally due to the excess of persons speaking Portuguese over those born in Portugal. The explanation, of course, is that many persons of mixed origin put forth a shadowy claim to descent from the Portuguese navigators and adventurers who were the first Europeans to visit Bengal, and still dignify their mongrel tongue with the title of a language which graced the Court of Charles V. In most instances this *patois* would seem to have been rightly returned as bad Hindustani or Bengali; but in some cases the affectation has been maintained, and the original entry has been left untouched. Of the 250 persons recorded as born in Turkey, it seems likely, on the one hand, that many are natives of Turkistan, while on the other hand many of those who are really subjects of the Porte doubtless returned their mother-tongue as Arabic. Most of these representatives of European nations were found in Calcutta, where they pursue various avocations, some of them of a not very reputable character. The Swedes, Danes, and Norwegians are for the most part sailors in Calcutta and in ports on the coast; such, too, is the solitary Laplander. Putting aside the Portuguese, the close approximation between the numbers speaking European languages and the numbers born in Europe favours the supposition that the number of foreigners settling and bringing up families in Bengal is not large, or that, if the number is considerable, the language which the children learn is not that of their parents, but English or Hindustani. The former supposition is most in accordance with known facts.

The European population.

Where Born.	Number.	Mother-tongue.	Number.
France and Belgium	269	French	414
Italy	158	Italian	255
Austria, Germany, and Switzerland.	469	German, Swiss, and Hungarian...	385
Denmark	49	Danish	51
Greece	61	Greek	94
Holland	27	Dutch	55
Malta	22	.....	.....
Norway	82	Norwegian	84
Portugal	23	Portuguese	297
Roumania	24	Roumanian	6
Russia	94	Russian, Polish, Finnish, and Lap	66
Spain	29	Spanish	63
Sweden	131	Swedish	132
Turkey	250	Turkish	9
Europe (not further stated) ...	27	.....	.....
	1,715		1,911

338. A striking discrepancy will be noticed, however, between the number of those speaking English and of those born in the United Kingdom and in other parts of the world where English is spoken. Table X shows that the figures for the birthplace of these persons are as follows, viz. United Kingdom 10,583, Africa (British possessions) 101, America (English-speaking parts) 358, Australia 113, at sea 69: total 11,224. On the other hand, the number of persons in Bengal speaking English (including Scotch, Irish, and Welsh) as their mother-tongue is shown by Table IX to be 37,640—an excess of 26,416 persons. A reference to Table IIIA, however, will show that this startling discrepancy is exactly accounted for by the Eurasians and by the large class of persons who are there returned as "Other Europeans." As has already been explained in a previous chapter, these are people who could not conveniently be placed in any other group: they are for the most part persons of distinctly European origin, as evidenced by their names and parentage, who have, however, been born out of the United Kingdom, many of them in India. The class contains all the 1,911 persons speaking European languages other than English; and if these be deducted from the total, we find that the English-speaking Christians in Table IIIA give the following figures:—British-born subjects 10,583, other Europeans (less the 1,911 speaking foreign languages) 11,727, Americans 392, Australians 88, Africans 67, and Eurasians 14,705: total 37,562—which is within 78

The Eurasians.

of the total of those who are returned as speakers of English. This small excess can easily be accounted for if we recollect that in some cases the mother-tongue of the Eurasian Christians has doubtless been returned with truth as Hindustani or Bengali.

Asiatics, not natives of India.

339. The total number of persons born out of the Indian empire but in other parts of Asia is 93,110, or 11·77 per cent of the population of Bengal. The abstract in the margin gives in juxtaposition details of their birthplace and of the corresponding languages. It will be seen that there is an excess of 18,968 in favour of those speaking the Asiatic languages in question; and this is no doubt mainly to be explained by the settlement of large numbers of these persons in British territory with their families: so that the younger generation, although speaking the language of their ancestral home, are returned as born in British territory. That this is the true explanation will be apparent from a closer examination of the abstract. Almost the whole of the immigrants come from the countries on our northern frontier. The Nepalese are coolies on the tea-gardens of Darjeeling and Julpigoree and in the indigo factories of Chumparun, as well as scattered settlers or labourers in other districts along the frontier; but the small excess of persons speaking their language over those born in their country connotes the acknowledged fact that the Government of Nepal discourages, and that the Nepalese do no greatly practise, permanent emigration. With the Bhutias and Lepchas, on the other hand, the facts are exactly the other way, and the number of persons speaking Bhutia and Lepcha is nearly four times as great as the number of persons born in Bhutan and Sikkim, thus clearly indicating how many persons of these nationalities have taken up their abode on British soil. Curious variations are presented also by the figures for other languages and countries: thus, Persian is the mother-tongue of 2,336 persons, while only 314 of them were born in that kingdom. The explanation is that "Farsi," or Persian, has been entered in many cases as meaning the better form of Hindustani spoken by the upper class of Mahomedans in these provinces, and it has doubtless been returned as the mother-tongue of many persons born in Afghanistan and Cashmere. Armenian, it would seem, still continues to be the mother-tongue of the Armenian community, although very few of them are natives of Armenia. For the excess under Arabic the explanation is the same as in the case of Persian; and the dispersion of the Jews is strikingly exemplified by the fact that though Bengal contains 450 persons whose mother-tongue is Hebrew, not one of them was born in Palestine.

Where Born.	Number.	Language.	Number.
Nepal	85,011	Nepalese	89,855
Bhutan and Tibet	3,558	Bhutia or Tibetan	11,850
Sikkim	1,081	Lepcha	4,611
Afghanistan	834	Pashtu	381
China	825	Chinese	850
French possessions	562	.....	.....
Arabia	354	Arabic	905
Persia	313	Persian	2,336
Cashmere	200	Cashmiri	91
Straits Settlements	175	Manilla	1
Ceylon	77	Singhalese	2
Turkistan and Tartary	63	.....	.....
Maldive Islands	19	.....	.....
Malay Archipelago	15	Malay	7
Armenia	11	Armenian	737
Japan	8	Japanese	1
Siam	3	Siamese	1
Goa	1	.....	.....
		Hebrew	450
	93,110		112,078

Natives of other provinces of India.

340. The number of natives of other provinces of India found in Bengal is 487,059, or 61·59 per cent of the whole. The general diffusion, however, over the continent of India of the great Indian vernaculars renders it impossible to prepare for these peoples any such comparative tables of birthplace and mother-tongue as have been arranged for persons of more distinct characteristics. Details of the numbers born in each of the other Indian provinces are to be found in Table No. X

(page 326 of Appendix B), where they can be studied in full. The importance of these figures, however, lies not in themselves, but in the information which they give as to provincial immigration and emigration when compared with the figures for inhabitants of Bengal found in other parts of India.

Emigration.

341. It is a trite observation, the truth of which every one will acknowledge who is familiar with Bengal, that the natives of these provinces, take them as a whole, are above all things a domestic, stay-at-home people. At certain seasons of the year there is considerable internal movement: gangs of labourers throng well-known labour markets, and there is always a small percentage of the male population, especially from Behar and Western Bengal, which is absent from home in service of a more or less permanent character; but for every man who comes from Shahabad or Sarun to take service as an orderly or groom in Calcutta, or who trudges from Lohardugga to cut the rice in Dinagepore or the jute in Mymensingh, hundreds never go beyond the limits of their own district, but live and die in their own village. Of emigration beyond the province there are two broad channels, viz. that which leads the surplus labour of Bengal into the tea-gardens of Assam, and that which carries it over seas to the colonies. Both these lines of emigration are under surveillance; but while it is impossible for any colonial emigration to go on without the knowledge of Government, it is believed that the many routes to Assam, and the comparative ease with which communication with that province is carried on, encourage a considerable amount of voluntary emigration over which Government has no sort of supervision. Besides these great lines of emigration, however, others exist which are called into existence by temporary causes, or are opened to meet individual requirements, of which the sum makes up a very considerable body of emigrants. Such being the state of the case, it is evident that the statistics of the Emigration Department can be accepted as complete for colonial emigration alone; and to get some idea of the extent of general emigration to and from the province, we must turn to the figures which the late census of India provides.

Emigration and immigration to or from other provinces.

342. It will be noticed on referring to Table X that out of the 487,059 persons born in other provinces of the empire and found in Bengal on the night of the census a very large proportion come from the more important provinces of India; and a compilation of the figures will show that in particular Assam, the Central Provinces, and the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, supply nearly nine-tenths of the whole. Similar tables compiled in other provinces show the number of emigrants from Bengal found in each of them, so that no difficulty has been experienced in preparing the following abstract, which shows the losses and gains by emigration and immigration between Bengal and some of the most important provinces in India.

No. 39.—*Statement showing the Movement of the Population between Bengal and other important provinces of the empire.*

Immigrants.				Emigrants.				Loss(−)or Gain (+) to Bengal.		
Where Born.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Where Found.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	*214,498*	137,435	*351,933*	North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	*76,909*	136,720	*213,629*	*+137,589*	+715	*+138,304*
Assam ...	*22,651*	18,156	*40,807*	Assam ...	*126,856*	94,400	*221,256*	*−104,205*	−76,244	*−180,449*
Central Provinces.	*22,716*	17,770	*40,486*	Central Provinces.	*27,648*	24,061	*51,709*	*−4,932*	−6,291	*−11,223*
Madras ...	*12,041*	9,460	*21,501*	Madras .	*3,569*	2,046	*5,615*	*+8,472*	+7,414	*+15,886*
Punjab ..	*6,118*	1,988	*8,106*	Punjab ...	*5,158*	3,045	*8,203*	*+960*	−1,057	*−97*
Bombay and Sind.	*2,826*	1,486	*4,312*	Bombay and Sind.	*8,426*	3,587	*12,013*	*−5,600*	−2,101	*−7,701*
British Burmah	*772*	368	*1,140*	British Burmah	*79,746*	23,115	*102,861*	*−78,974*	−22,747	*−101,721*
Total ...	281,622	186,663	468,285	Total ...	328,312	286,974	615,286	−46,690	−100,311	−147,001

343. These figures are full of significance. Commencing with the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and taking both sexes together, it will be seen that

three-fourths of the whole foreign Indian population of Bengal is supplied by the provinces on its north-western frontier; that this pre-eminence is maintained in the figures for either sex; and that the proportion between the sexes of the immigrants is as 4 to 3 in favour of the males. On the other hand, in respect of the number of emigrants from Bengal found within its boundaries, the North-Western Provinces only takes second place: the female emigrants from Bengal are more numerous there than anywhere else, and they are double the number of the men. On the whole, Bengal takes from the North-Western Provinces 137,589 men and only 715 women. The explanation of these figures is clear. Between the races of Behar and the North-Western Provinces there is no real distinction whatever: their affinities are very strong, and the line which separates them is the arbitrary limit of a provincial boundary. Consequently social intercourse between the people dwelling on either side of the border is quite unchecked; and the custom which is common to both, that a man shall take a wife, not from his own village, but from another, is the simple explanation of the figures cited. The exchange of females is almost at par. As regards the males, the 76,909 men from Bengal found in the North-Western Provinces are in all probability partly Beharis in service scattered about the country, partly Bengali clerks, partly Poorbeah sepoys in native regiments. If we assume an equal number of persons to be similarly employed among the immigrants into Bengal, there remains a group of 137,589 males to be accounted for. Calcutta and its suburbs at once absorb 49,109 of them, and the rest are scattered over the province as domestic servants, gate-keepers, and messengers, both of Europeans and of the landed gentry. Assam sends only 40,807 emigrants into Bengal,—the women mostly as wives, and the men as labourers and cultivators in the boundary districts; but on the other hand it contains more immigrants from Bengal than any other province of the empire, and (with the exception of British Burmah) has a larger proportion of males among them: it need hardly be said that these emigrants are almost all tea-garden coolies. From British Burmah the immigrants into Bengal are extremely few, but the emigrants from Bengal into Burmah exceed 100,000 in number, of which more than three-fourths are males. A considerable portion of the total are permanent settlers, but the greater majority are temporary migrants, who every year flock by thousands into Arrakan and Burmah in search of field work just before the time at which the census was taken, returning to their homes at the commencement of summer. This migration has already been noticed in a previous chapter, and it has been suggested as the explanation of anomalous statistics on the proportion of males to females in the districts which march with the northern frontier of British Burmah. To the Central Provinces Bengal gives 11,223 more souls than it receives. This traffic, which takes place by way of the Tributary States and Sumbulpore, has no great significance, and is due in the case of females to marriage connections, and in the case of men to wanderings in search of land or work. From Madras, on the other hand, Bengal receives 15,886 more than it gives; these immigrants come in mostly through Orissa. There is a considerable Telinga colony in Cuttack itself, composed partly of Madrassis employed in trade or service, and partly of a regiment of the Madras army quartered there, with the vast number of followers which it is the privilege of every Madras sepoy to take with him in his wanderings. At the time of the census, moreover, the garrison of Calcutta included two regiments of these domestic warriors. The number of emigrants exchanged between Bengal and the Punjab is greater than might have been expected, and the large number of Bengalis in Bombay is a point which requires elucidation, though it is not noticed in the Bombay Census Report.

Distribution of all persons born in Bengal.

344. From the figures in the preceding statement, from the statistics to be found in other census reports, and from the periodical reports on colonial emigration, it is possible to arrive at a rough estimate of the number of Bengal-born persons alive at the time of the census and of their distribution. It has been seen that the number living in Bengal itself is 68,746,084. The larger provinces quoted in the statement on page 151 have a population of 615,286 more, and it is probable that the other lesser provinces and the native states of India with the kingdom of Nepal contain the 384,714 persons necessary to complete the million. One-fourth of a million is probably too high an estimate of the numbers who are to be found in the colonies, but it may be said in round

numbers that the total of persons born in Bengal and alive on the 17th February 1881 was 70 millions. In every 10,000 of this number 9,821 were still in Bengal, 142 were in other parts of India, and 35 in the colonies or other parts of the world. On the other hand, of the population found actually resident in Bengal 9,886 in every 10,000 had been born there, 70 were natives of other parts of India, 13 others were Asiatics from beyond the confines of the Indian empire, 28 were of uncertain birthplace, and 2 were from other continents.

Composition of the population in Bengal and elsewhere in India.

345. As regards emigration, the ratios for Bengal and for the North-Western Provinces seem to be somewhat similar. It is for that province alone that any emigration figures are at this moment available. In that part of India 9,752 in every 10,000 persons born in the province were found within its boundaries, 225 were found in other parts of India, and only 22 in the colonies or elsewhere.

346. As regards immigration, the table in the margin will show how Bengal stands in comparison with other large provinces of India. It will be seen that notwithstanding the attractions which are held out by the metropolis of India Bengal contains a smaller proportion of foreigners than any other province in the empire. The less advanced provinces, on the other hand, such as British Burmah, Assam, and the Central Provinces, have a comparatively large outside population. With the exception of Madras (where the large number of persons of unspecified birthplace impairs the force of any remarks made on other statistics in the table), no province has so small a proportion as Bengal of immigrants from other parts of India; Assam, Burmah, and the Central Provinces taking a prominent place in this respect. Owing to the presence of many Cashmiris and Affghans the Punjab has a large proportion of Asiatics other than natives of India: this class composes in British Burmah nearly one-tenth of the whole population, the great majority of whom are refugees and others from Upper Burmah. The same province has a remarkably large proportion of non-Asiatic foreigners; the prominence of Bombay in the same direction is caused by its commercial activity, its sea-ports, and its garrisons, the latter factor also accounting for the position in the scale held by the Punjab and the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

No. 40.—Statement comparing the Composition of the Population in each large Province in India in respect of Migration.

Province.	Number of persons in 10,000 who were born—					
	In the province.	In other parts of India.	Elsewhere in Asia.	In other continents.	Unspecified.	Total.
Bengal	*9,886*	*70*	*13*	*2*	*28*	*10,000*
North-Western Provinces and Oudh	9,821	162	9	4	1	10,000
Bombay	9,659	275	44	11	11	10,000
Punjab	9,657	228	102	7	4	10,000
Madras	9,610	65	9	2	311	10,000
Central Provinces	9,523	473	.....	2	.....	10,000
Assam	9,424	570	2	1	.....	10,000
British Burmah	8,550	494	936	18	.....	10,000
Mean of the Eight Provinces ...	9,516	267	151	6	44	.....

Movements of the population within Bengal.

347. As regards the movement of the population within the province, Table No. XI in Appendix B gives the fullest information district by district. This table and Table No. X are, in fact, the complements of each other. In the former table no details are provided for districts, and Bengal is treated as one large whole; but to make up for this want of detail full particulars are given as to the country of birth of all persons born outside Bengal. On the other hand, Table No. XI shows only the total of each of the great groups into which the foreign population is divided, without giving the figures for each country; but it shows these figures for each district, and in addition it gives for the Bengal-born people found in each district the name of the district where they were born, and their numbers and sex. This table, therefore, provides materials for a very complete estimate of the internal movements of the population, and an effort has been made to show clearly the results so obtained by the

preparation of the tables and coloured maps dealing with emigration and immigration, which will be found at the end of this chapter.

Local and temporary migrations.

348. Before discussing the statistics there set forth, however, two or three preliminary considerations have to be stated which should not be forgotten in perusing the observations below. In the first place, it must be borne in mind that the tables now offered are based upon the statistics gathered on one single night only, and must therefore be taken as representing the conditions of emigration and immigration on one given date alone. It is well known that at fixed times of the year there is a flow of immigrants into certain parts of Bengal, which is followed, with true tidal regularity, by an ebb of emigrants; while, to continue the metaphor, special causes are liable anywhere and at any moment to give rise to special and temporary currents of migration. Thus in the winter season, as has been stated above, thousands of adult males leave the Chittagong district in search of work in Arrakan and other parts of British Burmah. As soon as the rice is cut in Orissa, large numbers of the Uriyas come to Calcutta to work as palki-bearers, punkha-pullers, and coolies till the renewal of agricultural operations recalls them to their homes. Lastly, road-making and earthwork on railways and canals will always attract labour to the spot from the districts which supply the coolies of Bengal, or from localities where a cessation of agricultural occupations has set the husbandmen free. Of these migrations it was impossible for the tables to take cognizance. Statistics of this larger question, the general migration of the population, can only be obtained by making enquiries, at different seasons of the year, into the birth-places of the people in each district and then collating the results. The tables now put forward only show the actual state of affairs in each district on the census night, but, as will be seen, it is possible to judge to what extent the foreigners in each district are permanent settlers or temporary visitors by examining the proportions of the sexes among them.

Explanation of the map.

349. In the second place it is necessary to explain, with regard to the map and table relating to emigration, that they are not complete, because they do not take into account those persons who have emigrated beyond the boundaries of the province. There is no possibility of obtaining statistics as to the districts of birth of these persons, because this information must be sought in the returns from other provinces. Unfortunately, however, under the orders of the Census Commissioner, the information required is not to be found in them. Each census officer compiled for each of his districts the district of birth of the persons found within its limits only if they had been born within the province of which he had charge, otherwise only the *province* of birth was recorded, and no detail of *districts* was maintained. Thus for all the persons born in the districts of Madras found in Bengal no further information is afforded by the Bengal tables than that they were born in "Madras;" and, similarly, all the Bengal-born persons found in other provinces of the empire are grouped together as having been born in "Bengal," without any distinction of the districts whence they came. The result is that it is impossible to trace the districts of birth of the Bengal emigrants found elsewhere in India; and all that the emigration map and tables can do is to show statistics for those persons who, having emigrated from the district of their birth, have still not passed beyond the boundaries of Bengal. It will therefore be obvious that the percentage of emigration in border districts must be somewhat understated, and (as will be immediately explained) that this is especially the case as regards the female emigrants. In respect, however, to emigration from district to district within the province, the information given by the table and map is complete.

Migration of women.

350. Lastly, it is a somewhat surprising, but an incontrovertible fact, that women leave the district of their birth much more than men, and that the position of a district in respect of comparative emigration depends much more upon its female than upon its male emigration. It might have been thought that the seclusion of native females and the love of home which animates both sexes would have rendered the emigration of women almost unknown, and that the whole of the emigrants from a district would consist of adult males; the facts, however, are quite the reverse, and the explanation of this paradox is to be found in the marriage customs of the people. That a Hindu is forbidden to take a wife from within the circle of his family, or from without the circle of his caste, is well known, as is the fact

that this broad principle is embroidered by different castes with a thousand further rules of etiquette. Among the strongest of these is that which imposes on the Hindus, and those who imitate them, the paramount necessity of taking their wives from some other village than their own. A man may marry a girl from a distant district or from another province, but never from among his immediate neighbours. Eliezer of Damascus still brings for his master's son a wife from a far country, and Jacob is not yet allowed to wed one of the daughters of Canaan. There is, therefore, a constant fusion and flow of the population from one part of a district to another and between one district and its neighbour. Moreover, district and provincial boundaries being but arbitrary and conventional divisions, no real or visible differences of caste, religion, or custom separate the dwellers on either side of an imaginary line; and the borderers of the Bengal marches marry as freely with those within the boundary of the North-Western Provinces as the inhabitants of contiguous villages in the centre of a district. The result is that if the statistics of district emigration are examined it will be found that in nearly every case most of the emigrant women have settled in the adjoining districts, while, similarly, of the immigrants into any district the greater part of the females will be natives of the districts in its immediate neighbourhood. It may therefore be said that special causes apart, the gauge of district emigration is the extent to which its women go abroad to marry; and that this should be the case is another significant proof of the very small extent to which natives voluntarily emigrate for reasons which induce Europeans to leave their homes. This general rule, however, is subject to one important exception, and that is that it does not apply to Mahomedans, for they have no such scruples as to taking their wives from the immediate vicinity of their homes, and it will therefore be found that female emigration is much below the average in those districts which are chiefly peopled by Mussulmans.

351. Read horizontally, Table No. XI shows against each district the total population found within its boundaries on the census night, together with the places where they had been born, so that the horizontal lines give details of *immigration*. Thus the total number of persons found in Burdwan was 1,391,823 (p. 347); and of these, as a reference to pp. 330 and 331 of Appendix B will show, 23 were born in Backergunge, 301 in Balasore, 19,741 in Bankoorah, 14,381 in Beerbhoom, and so on. In the printed table which accompanies the map showing immigration, only the total number is given of persons found within the Burdwan district who had been born outside it, viz. 1,00,003, together with the ratio which they bear to 100 of the whole population of the district. The same calculation has been repeated for Divisions and provinces, the immigrants in each case representing the persons who had been born in districts outside the Division or province, and not the total of the foreigners in each district of it. District immigration.

352. Referring now, after this preliminary explanation, to the immigration table, it will be found that among the provinces of Bengal the Feudatory States, with 17·97 per cent of immigrants, has by far the highest ratio of foreigners, while Orissa, with only 1·52 per cent, has the lowest. Bengal, owing chiefly to the influences of Calcutta and Darjeeling, has 5·91 per cent of foreigners, Chota Nagpore has 3·27 per cent, and Behar 1·63 per cent. Of the nine great Divisions, the Presidency Division has as many as 8·25 per cent of its population born outside its limits—a pre-eminence which is entirely due to the inclusion of Calcutta within it, since the other districts of the Division have comparatively few foreigners. The Rajshahye Division stands second, thanks to the immigration into Darjeeling and, to a less degree, Julpigoree. The Bhaugulpore Division takes the third place with 4·22 foreigners in every 100 persons, and is closely followed by Chittagong (3·99 per cent) and the Chota Nagpore Division (3·27 per cent); while the Division with the fewest emigrants, both absolutely and in proportion to its population, is Orissa.

353. The position of the different districts in respect of immigration is shown on the map by gradations of colour increasing in strength with the proportion of immigrants. All the districts of Bengal have there been arranged into five groups, according to the percentage of foreigners which they contain.

The first group, which is the most faintly tinted of all, includes seven districts, in all of which the proportion of immigrants is less than 3 per cent, viz.—

Balasore	...	...	2·95
Rungpore	...	...	2·47
Tipperah	...	...	2·45
Midnapore	...	...	2·27
Noakholly	...	...	1·79
Cuttack	...	...	1·35
Chittagong	...	...	·74

In the second class are comprised districts which have a ratio of from 3 to 5 per cent of foreigners. In this, which is the largest class, there are the following eighteen districts:—

Manbhoom	...	...	4·73
Hazaribagh	...	...	4·71
Durbhunga	...	...	4·69
Furreedpore	...	...	4·62
Jessore	...	...	4·62
Purneah	...	...	4·59
Beerbhoom	...	...	4·57
Nuddea	...	...	4·32
Lohardugga	...	...	4·27
Mozufferpore	...	...	4·21
Shahabad	...	...	4·09
Pooree	...	...	3·93
Gya	...	...	3·75
Sarun	...	...	3·68
Dacca	...	...	3·64
Pubna	...	...	3·43
Backergunge	...	...	3·27
Mymensingh	...	...	3·16

The third group contains all those districts in which the foreign element is from 5 to 10 per cent of the whole: they are thirteen in number, viz.—

Maldah	...	...	9·79
Sonthal Pergunnahs	...	...	9·49
Hooghly	...	...	8 37
Patna	...	...	7·75
Bhaugulpore	...	...	7·59
Burdwan	...	...	7·18
Moorshedabad	...	...	6·92
Singbhoom	...	...	6·61
Dinagepore	...	...	6·21
Monghyr	...	...	5·88
Bogra	...	...	5 74
Rajshahye	...	...	5·25
Bankoora	...	...	5·04

The fourth group contains seven districts, in all of which the number of persons born outside their boundaries amounts to between 10 and 20 per cent: they are—

Cooch Behar	...	...	19·73
Howrah	...	...	18·18
Angul	...	...	17·93
Julpigoree	...	...	14·88
Tributary States, Orissa	...	...	12·36
Chumparun	...	...	11·24
24-Pergunnahs	...	...	10 33

In the last and smallest group, which comprises all the districts in which foreigners are more than 20 per cent of the population, and which are coloured most strongly on the map, there are four districts, and the variation between them is very great, viz.—

Calcutta	...	...	70·25
Darjeeling	...	...	52·44
Tributary States, Chota Nagpore	...	...	29·01
Banki	...	...	28·89

354. For purposes of examination, however, it will be convenient to arrange these districts into three groups, according as they have ratios of under 5, under 10, and 10 per cent or more of foreigners. The first group includes all those districts where there is nothing to tempt the immigrant—where the land is fully taken up, and where there is no special market for outside labour; and the map will show that this description applies to the whole of the Orissa Division, to most of the districts east of the Hooghly, to the Chota Nagpore Division, and to several of the thickly-peopled districts of Behar. In a word, the districts of this group comprise nearly half the population and slightly less than half the area of the province.

355. In the second group will be found districts which for some reason or other, such as their trade, their position, or the peculiar circumstances of their crops at the time of the census, attracted immigrants. The third group is composed altogether of special cases. Of Calcutta it is unnecessary to speak; Howrah and the 24-Pergunnahs, each containing a large urban population, made up of contributions from all parts of India, are in similar case; Darjeeling and Julpigoree owe their position to the tea industry; Chumparun has some Nepalese subjects engaged in cultivation or in indigo factories, and many immigrants from the North-Western Provinces; while the remaining districts, which are all without exception among the most backward and least developed in Bengal, have evidently held out with success the lure of virgin soil and low rents which no agricultural people elbowing each other for room in the densely crowded villages of their home could possibly withstand.

356. An examination of the districts from which the immigrants come will afford remarkable corroboration of the statement already made that

female emigrants do not, as a rule, go far from their homes, and will show that the same remark is true, though in a lesser degree, of the male migrants. Commencing with the districts to which immigration is most common, and leaving out of consideration the cases of Calcutta, Howrah, and the 24-Pergunnahs for reasons just stated, and the States of Angul and Banki because their population is so small as not to affect the argument, the following figures show for each of the districts in question the principal sources from which its immigrants are drawn, and the proportion contributed by each such source. In Darjeeling, out of the 81,385 outsiders whom the district contains, 55,000 are coolies from Nepal and settlers from Bhootan and Sikkim, 4,846 are from the neighbouring districts of Julpigoree, 10,460 are from Purneah with which Darjeeling is connected by a good road, the remainder being made up by contributions from almost every other district in Bengal. The Tributary States of Chota Nagpore contain 196,737 foreigners; more than half of these are from Singbhoom alone, the remainder coming from other districts of South Behar, the Chota Nagpore Division, and Western Bengal. Obviously these states do not yet offer any attraction to distant enterprise. In Cooch Behar the foreign element numbers 118,928 persons: of these 21,172 come from the neighbouring district of Rungpore and 14,514 from that of Julpigoree; while the excess of females among these immigrants shows that they are brought across the border by marriage, and not as labourers. From Sarun, on the contrary, comes a large colony of 1,795 persons, of whom all but 105 are males, some of whom are no doubt employed in the service of the State, but a greater number are palki-bearers temporarily in the district for the marriage season. Julpigoree has a foreign population of 86,585 souls; more than one-half of these are immigrants from neighbouring districts, and the large numbers of women show that they are permanently settled there. Cooch Behar sends 29,346, Rungpore 15,461, and Dinagepore 7,846; other provinces in India send 9,335, and the number of persons from beyond the British frontier, chiefly Nepalese and Bhutias, is 5,752. In the Tributary States of Orissa there are 181,618 outsiders who have immigrated in large numbers from the districts which surround them; all the three districts of the Orissa Division are large contributors, Cuttack sending 61,074, Balasore 17,053, and Pooree 13,122, a remarkable feature of the immigration from the latter district being the fact that two-thirds of the immigrants are women; Singbhoom on the north and Midnapore on the north-east send respectively 18,055 and 13,926 persons, among whom the sexes are pretty equally divided; while the Central Provinces through Sumbulpore furnish a contingent of about 20,000 souls. In Chumparun the 193,659 foreigners are drawn chiefly from the north Gangetic districts of Behar, Sarun sending 76,670 and Mozufferpore 48,716, while Shahabad, Durbhunga, Patna, and Gya are represented by much smaller numbers. But it is remarkable that the intervention of the great river Gunduck seems to be a bar to intermarriage between the people of Chumparún and Sarun, for while three-fifths of the immigrants from Mozufferpore and two-thirds of those from other parts of India, *i.e.* the North-Western Provinces, are women, four out of every seven from Sarun are men. The neighbouring districts of the North-Western Provinces send 36,855, and the kingdom of Nepal more than 5,000. Like phenomena appear in districts of the second group with unvarying sameness. The Maldah immigrants consist chiefly of natives of Moorshedabad, Dinagepore, and Purneah, with a large number of boatmen from the North-Western Provinces. The Sonthal Pergunnahs district, now the head-quarters of this great tribe, has most immigrants from Bhaugulpore, Hazaribagh, and Monghyr, where the clan is largely represented, as well as adventurers from almost every district in Bengal. Lastly, in Hooghly the districts which supply the greatest proportion of its strangers are the neighbouring ones of Bankoorah (15,556), Burdwan (24,489), Midnapore (11,677), Nuddea (5,186), and 24-Pergunnahs (6,995), the proportion of females to males being excessive among the immigrants from Burdwan and Midnapore.

Homes of the immigrants.

357. To obtain statistics of emigration we must read Table XI in another way. The total of the columns read vertically for each district gives the number of persons born in the district, while the entries against each of the districts

District emigration.

printed in the marginal columns show where these persons were found. Thus, to take again the instance of Burdwan, the number of persons born in the district, as shown on page 350 of Appendix B, was 1,423,915, of whom (*vide* page 332) 1,291,820 were found in Burdwan, 15,996 in Bankoorah, 11,884 in Beerbhoom, &c. To illustrate these statistics a map has been drawn up showing the percentage of emigrants from each district (*i.e.* of persons found elsewhere than in the district) on all the persons born therein.

358. The Division which shows the greatest proportion of emigrants beyond its borders is, as was to be expected, that of Chota Nagpore, with a depletion of its population amounting to 5·88 per cent; and when it is remembered that the great majority of the 221,256 Bengali-born persons found in Assam come from this Division, it seems likely that the true ratio of emigrants from Chota Nagpore is nearly 10 per cent. From the Burdwan Division 4·58 per cent of the population have emigrated, and from Orissa 3·98. The latter figure is natural, but the emigration from the Burdwan Division reaches a figure quite unexpected, the causes of which will be discussed below. From Behar the emigration is only 1·71 per cent, the divisional percentages being Patna 2·90 per cent and Bhaugulpore 2·65 per cent; from the Presidency Division, thanks to the numbers of its natives who quit Calcutta, the emigration amounts to 2·53 per cent; but in no other Division does it rise to 2 per cent, the lowest figure of all being found in the Chittagong Division, where it is certainly understated on account of the unavoidable omission from the calculation of all the Chittagong emigrants found in British Burmah.

Arrangement of districts according to emigration.

359. The Districts of Bengal are divided in the map by tints of colour into five grades of varying emigration, according as the percentage of emigrants from them bears to the whole population born within them the ratios of less than 3 per cent, 3 to 5 per cent, 5 to 8 per cent, 8 to 10 per cent, and lastly 10 per cent and more. Only three and four districts, however, belong to the two last-mentioned classes respectively, so that they may be considered together. Excluding this last grade of districts, where the ratio of emigration is more than 8 per cent on the total population born in the district, the remaining districts are very equally divided among the three other grades. A glance at the map will show the conformation which these different grades of districts assume. It will be seen that those from which the greatest emigration occurs lie in three groups, which consist of Patna and Sarun in the north-west; Calcutta, Hooghly, and Burdwan in Central Bengal; and the Singbhoom district in the west. The districts of medium emigration lie generally in a broad zone from the north-west to the south-east of the province, while the districts from which emigration is least frequent form an outer fringe reaching to the boundaries of the province on the south-west and the north-east and east.

360. The districts from which emigration goes on to the greatest extent are those mentioned in the margin, and they will be found coloured on the map with the two darkest tints. It will be seen that though they are thrown together in one group, the percentage of emigration varies very greatly. Of every three persons born in Calcutta one goes away, and the Calcutta emigrants will be found scattered through almost every district in the province, though the largest number naturally are found in that of the 24-Pergunnahs. The emigration from Singbhoom, which stands second on the list, is remarkable for the very short distance to which it extends. The Singbhoom emigrants in Bengal are 127,222 in number. Of this total five-sixths, or 104,249, are found in the neighbouring Tributary States of Chota Nagpore, and 18,055 in those of Orissa: only two other districts, viz. Midnapore (1,361) and Dinagepore (1,624) have more than 1,000. Outside the Tributary States just mentioned, and the Chota Nagpore Division, there were only found 3,172 persons who had been born in Singbhoom. No stronger evidence could be offered of the unwillingness of the Kols to go far from their homes.

	Percentage.		Percentage.
Calcutta ...	33·35	Burdwan ...	9·27
Singbhoom ...	23·09	Patna ...	8·46
Hooghly ...	15·44	Banki ...	8·25
		Sarun ...	8·00

Explanation of high rates of emigration.

361. The high percentage of emigration from Hooghly and Burdwan must be ascribed partly to the desertion of their homes by the population during or since the fever which ravaged those districts from 1867 to 1874, and partly

to the numbers attracted thence to Calcutta and its environs. Out of the 169,506 persons born in the Hooghly district and found elsewhere, 73,055 were in other districts of the Division and 18,039 in the 24-Pergunnahs, a majority of these emigrants being women; while 66,288 were in the city and suburbs of Calcutta, a large proportion of whom were males, as was to be expected. For Burdwan the facts are almost exactly the same. Out of the 132,095 persons born in that district and found elsewhere, 58,881, or 40 per cent, were found established in other districts of the Burdwan Division; these emigrants consisting very largely of females in every case except that of Howrah. Calcutta and its suburbs have attracted 30,246 persons, and the districts of Moorshedabad, Manbhoom, and the Sonthal Pergunnahs have also a considerable population of Burdwan emigrants.

362. With Patna and Sarun, which also find a place in the class of districts from which emigration is largest, the case is very similar. These districts are both in the Patna Division and in Behar; and if a reference is made to the figures in the table which accompanies the map, it will be seen that though the emigration from the various districts of Behar is considerable the emigration beyond each Division is small, and that emigration beyond the province is still less popular. The fact is that here, as elsewhere, emigration is not to any distant point, and arises rather from social than from economic causes. Of the 149,931 Patna emigrants, 67,529 are in other districts of the Division, the excess in every case but one being in favour of the females; 37,043 are found in the Monghyr division: so that only 45,359 persons, which is equivalent to 30·25 per cent of the emigrants and to 2·56 per cent of the natives of the district, have gone beyond the boundaries of Behar. Calcutta and its suburbs account for nearly 23,000 of these, and the remainder are distributed all over the province, the only districts where no Patna men are found being Noakholly, Angul, and Banki.

363. Great stress has frequently been laid upon the extent of the emigration from Sarun, but an examination of the figures will show that its features differ to no material extent from those of other districts in the province. The number of natives of Sarun who had left the district before the census was 191,152. Of this number 70 per cent were found in other parts of the Patna Division; the other 30 per cent, represented by 50,895 persons, are, like the Patna men, distributed over Bengal, the largest numbers being found in Calcutta and its suburbs (11,132), Rungpore (7,935, mostly males and palki-bearers), and Mymensingh (5,247, almost exclusively males employed as boatmen and palki-bearers). It is, however, right to notice that a very large number of emigrants from this district have not been taken into account, as they have gone into those districts of the N.-W. Provinces which march with it, and that the *real* emigration from Sarun is larger than the tables show. This conclusion is fully borne out by the sexes of the recorded emigrants, for while the male emigrants from Sarun number 124,166, the females are only 66,941, or not much more than half the number. Among the Patna emigrants, on the other hand, the excess is in favour of the weaker sex, the men numbering 71,114 and the women 78,817.

364. The districts of the second class, from which the proportion of emigrants is between 5 and 8 per cent, are sixteen in number, as detailed in the margin. From them there is no special necessity for emigration to take place, and the figures probably indicate no more than a natural movement.

Monghyr	7·89	Bhaugulpore	6·69
Gya	7·88	Moorshedabad	6·58
Mozufferpore	7·65	Hazaribagh	6·29
Beerbhoom	7·55	Shahabad	5·62
Cuttack	7·49	Manbhoom	5·54
Bankoorah	7·42	Furreedpore	5·37
Angul	7·02	Julpigoree	5·26
Nuddea	6·73	Midnapore	5·06

365. In the next class are included twelve districts from which the emigration is more than 3 and less than 5 per cent of the population born in the district. They are as follows:—

Dacca	4·93	Jessore	3·64
Purneah	4·87	24-Pergunnahs	3·46
Pubna	4·66	Rajshahye	3·33
Maldah	4·33	Howrah	3·32
Balasore	4·18	Durbhunga	3·24
Lohardugga	3·79	Pooree	3·14

366. From the remaining fourteen districts, which compose the last grade, there is practically no emigration, as it in no case rises as far as 3 per cent of the population. They are the following :—

Rungpore	2·78	Tributary States, Orissa	2·18
Chumparun	2·49	Sonthal Pergunnahs	2·03
Backergunge	2·43	Tributary States, Chota Nagpore ...	1·78
Bogra	2·39	Tipperah	1·74
Noakholly	2·37	Mymensingh	1·50
Dinagepore	2·34	Chittagong	1·15
Darjeeling	2·31	Cooch Behar	·27

Proportion of the sexes among the emigrants.

367. A short scrutiny of the statistics of sex emigration will show the proportions in which the sexes emigrate from each district, and will thus enable us to ascertain the districts from which emigrants go for causes other than matrimonial, and the reasons for variations from the general average. The total number of males found elsewhere than in the districts of their birth is 2,132,171, and of females 1,980,717 ; so that the number of males who had emigrated in every 100 living on the census days was 6·45, and the percentage of females was 5.91. These figures give a mean of total emigrants of both sexes of 6·18 per cent. Men do not leave their districts, as women do, to form matrimonial alliances elsewhere, while, on the other hand, it is they almost exclusively who migrate in search of work or land, so that male emigration in Bengal is really undertaken for reasons very similar to those which bring the Irish reapers across the Irish Channel, flood the works of any new railway or canal with strange "navvies," and fill the hop-gardens of Kent with labourers from twenty other counties. The number of women who migrate in this manner with their male relatives is not one in a hundred; and as the migration and permanent settlement of women after marriage is almost equally infrequent, it follows that almost all the female emigrants from a district go abroad to marry and settle : so that if the number of the female emigrants be left out of consideration, the statistics for male emigrants will give sufficiently trustworthy information as to the tendency to emigration in each district.

368. The statement below gives for each district the proportion in every 100 of either sex who have left it and were found elsewhere on the date of the census :—

No. 41.—Statement compairing the Sexes of the Emigrants from each District in Bengal.

District.	Percentage of Emigrants.			District.	Percentage of Emigrants.		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.		Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
Burdwan	8·98	9·54	*9·27*	Tipperah	1·97	1·50	*1·74*
Bankoorah	7·63	7·21	*7·42*	Patna	8·15	8·77	*8·46*
Beerbhoom	6·64	8·38	*7·55*	Gya	7·79	7·92	*7·85*
Midnapore	5·34	4·78	*5·06*	Shahabad	6·46	4·80	*5·62*
Hooghly	16·48	14·44	*15·44*	Mozufferpore	7·25	8·05	*7·65*
Howrah	4·10	2·53	*3·32*	Durbhunga	2·47	3·91	*3·20*
24-Pergunnahs	4·16	2·75	*3·46*	Sarun	10·52	5·54	*8·00*
Calcutta	33·07	33·62	*33·35*	Chumparun	1·83	3·15	*2·49*
Nuddea	7·67	5·52	*6·73*	Monghyr	7·30	8·40	*7·89*
Jessore	4·11	3·16	*3·64*	Bhaugulpore	6·33	7·06	*6·70*
Moorshedabad	6·97	6·23	*6·58*	Purneah	4·98	4·76	*4·87*
Dinagepore	2·17	2·52	*2·34*	Maldah	4·42	4·24	*4·33*
Rajshahye	3·52	3·15	*3·33*	Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	1·88	2·19	*2·03*
Rungpore	2·77	2·80	*2·78*	Cuttack	8·59	6·42	*7·49*
Bogra	2·27	2·52	*2·39*	Pooree	1·81	4·47	*3·14*
Pubna	5·62	3·72	*4·66*	Balasore	4·16	4·21	*4·18*
Darjeeling	2·35	2·26	*2·31*	Hazaribagh	6·36	6·22	*6·29*
Julpigoree	4·88	5·67	*5·26*	Lohardugga	3·85	3·73	*3·79*
Dacca	·05	2·84	*4·93*	Singbhoom	23·30	22·87	*23·09*
Furreedpore	7·07	3·66	*5·37*	Manbhoom	5·24	5·84	*5·54*
Backergunge	2·89	1·96	*2·43*	Cooch Behar	·20	·33	*·27*
Mymensingh	1·61	1·40	*1·50*	Tributary States, Orissa ...	1·70	2·08	*2·18*
Chittagong	1·08	·68	*1·15*	Ditto, Chota Nagpore	1·91	1·65	*1·78*
Noakholly	3·21	1·50	*2·37*				

369. Dealing first of all with the statistics for male emigration, the conclusions which the foregoing table suggests are just those which we should have formed from our previous knowledge of the different districts. The localities from which the male emigration is largest are stated in the margin, and in all of them the rate of emigration considerably surpasses the mean of the whole province. The first two are governed by exceptional circumstances, and emigration from them is no more than the natural result of births in a great town from which the parents subsequently remove. From Singbhoom it has already been shown that there is a strong current setting into the Tributary States of Chota Nagpore in search of land, and it has also been pointed out that most of the Hooghly—and to some degree Burdwan—emigrants are drawn into the great net of Calcutta and its suburbs. The same attraction accounts for some of the emigrants from Nuddea. The Cuttack emigrants are coolies for Calcutta. From all the other districts in the list emigration is caused by overpopulation and want of land and agricultural employment. The Bankoorah men go to better their prospects in the less fully developed districts on their borders. Both in this district and in Gya, and to a less extent in Monghyr, there are large spaces of uncultivable land, which tend to reduce the average density of population over the whole district. Bearing this in mind, and looking at the table of density, it will be seen that the districts under discussion are among the most thickly populated in Bengal; for Sarun has a density per square mile of 869, Mozufferpore of 859, Patna of 845, while the density in Monghyr, Gya, and Bankoorah is 502, 450, and 397 respectively.

Emigration of males.

Calcutta	33·07	Cuttack	8·59
24-Pergunnahs	27·20	Patna	8·15
Singbhoom	23·30	Gya	7·79
Hooghly	16·48	Nuddea	7·67
Sarun	10·52	Bankoorah	7·63
Burdwan	8·98	Monghyr	7·30
		Mozufferpore	7·25

370. On the other hand, from certain districts the male emigration is very far below the average. From Cooch Behar only one man in four hundred emigrates, for land in that state is to be had in plenty, and under its present good government no incentive to emigration exists. From Mymensingh, Chittagong, and Tipperah, from Chumparun and the Sonthal Pergunnahs, and from Pooree and the two groups of Tributary States, the male emigration is less than 2 per cent. The reason in every case is plain. From Chittagong the figures are fallacious, because, for reasons elsewhere explained, they do not include the vast numbers of men who emigrate to British Burmah during the winter. The peasantry of Mymensingh and Tipperah are far too prosperous to leave their homes. From Chumparun local officers report that there is very little emigration; there is more land to spare in this district than in any other of the Patna Division, and the direction which any expansion would take would be to the waste lands to the north of the district and the fertile valleys of Nepal, where the emigrants would of course be lost for all the purposes of this comparison. From Pooree, too, what little emigration takes place is southward, to the Madras presidency, where, for similar reasons, its details cannot be collected. In the Sonthal Pergunnahs special circumstances recalled to their homes just before the census many temporary absentees; while the half-barbarian inhabitants of the Tributary States are stirred neither by desire nor necessity to wander from the village of their birth.

371. From two or three other districts, however, the figures for male emigration are somewhat abnormal. Dacca, Furreedpore, Backergunge, and Noakholly share the agricultural prosperity of Mymensingh and Tipperah, and it might have been expected that they would have shown as few emigrants; but these districts send boatmen up every river in Bengal. Durbhunga has a population of extraordinary density (789 to the square mile); but the explanation of its small emigration is the same as in the case of Chumparun, for its people go in search of work into Nepal.

372. Turning next to female emigration, it will be seen that in a great number of cases it is actually greater than that of men. It is absolutely greatest from the districts of Calcutta, the 24-Pergunnahs, Singbhoom, Hooghly, and Burdwan, where the reasons which have been assigned for an excess of male emigration apply equally to that of females. For the rest, it has already been explained that the extent of female emigration really depends on the degree in which the women of a district are sought in marriage beyond their border; and only one or two points remain to be noticed in connection with the subject.

Emigration of females.

The first is that from districts where Mahomedans prevail female emigration is very small. The districts which have the largest proportion of Mahomedan inhabitants are Bogra, Rajshahye, Noakholly, Pubna, Chittagong, Mymensingh, Backergunge, Tipperah, Rungpore, and Furreedpore. And whereas the mean of female emigration throughout the province is 5·91 per cent, the percentage of emigration from each of these districts is among the smallest in the province, the actual figures ranging from ·68 per cent in the case of Chittagong to 3·72 in that of Pubna; while, further, the emigration of women from them is less than that of men in every case except that of Rungpore and Bogra, where the figures are very nearly equal. Secondly, the loss of females by marriage across the provincial frontier is clearly marked in the case of more than one district. Thus female emigration from Sarun is certainly understated at 5·54 per cent, male emigration from the same district being nearly twice as extensive. The same remarks apply to the Shahabad district as a whole, and to the frontier thannahs of many border districts.

Emigration to the colonies.

373. Emigration to the colonies has hitherto taken away so imperceptible a portion of the natives of Bengal that it demands but the briefest comment. Government has, however, lately deputed an officer specially to enquire into the subject, and the result of his investigations have been published. Mr. Grierson, the officer in question, shows that the districts from which the trickle of emigration to the colonies is most constant are Shahabad, Sarun, Patna, and Gya, in the order given. Yet from the most prominent of these districts only 1,933 persons have emigrated during the past three years, while the emigrants from Gya during the same time were 564 only. With the exception of Mozufferpore (294) and Hazaribagh (109), no other district sent so many as one hundred emigrants, and the whole number who left their homes in Bengal for the colonies was only 5,284—a depletion absolutely without effect on the vast population of these provinces.

Languages of the population.

374. Some mention has already been made in the foregoing paragraphs of the various languages spoken by the inhabitants of Bengal; and in the attempt to ascertain the nationality of the people a table was given showing the broad divisions into which these languages were grouped in connection with birthplace. The figures in the margin, however, give the statistics for languages in greater detail. The system followed has been that of Colonel Dalton in his Ethnology of Bengal, and information in regard to the vocabulary and ethnological connection between the different languages of each group will be found in that work.

Language.	No. of persons whose mother-tongue it is.	Proportion in 10,000 of the population.
A.—Asiatic Languages.		
1. Bengali	36,416,070	52·37
2. Hindi, Hindustani, and Urdu	24,799,081	35·65
3 Uriya	5,456,818	7·83
4. Kolarian languages	2,149,133	3·09
5. Dravidian „	154,529	·22
6. Languages of the Northern Borders	929	.....
7. Ditto of the Northern Frontier	25,077	·03
8. Ditto of the Assam Valley	17,131	·02
9. Ditto of the Eastern Borders	15,804	·02
10. Ditto of Other Presidencies	20,631	·02
11. Other Asiatic languages	112,078	·16
B.—European Languages.		
12. English (including Irish, Scotch, and Welsh)	37,640	·05
13. Others	1,911	.....
C.—Indefinite.		
14. Not stated	335,129	·48
Total	69,536,861	10,000

375. It will be seen that the number of persons as to whose mother-tongue no information is available is comparatively very large; but the explanation is not far to seek. In two districts, viz. Hill Tipperah and the Chittagong Hill Tracts, the population of which is 101,597 and 95,637 respectively, no information was sought as to the mother-tongue of the people. If the sum of these figures be deducted

from the total of "unspecified," the number of persons for whose mother-tongue information was asked and not procured is reduced to 137,895, or ·19 per cent of the whole. Nearly 96 per cent of the people, as the table shows, speak one or other of the three vernaculars of the province, and the remaining 4 per cent is almost entirely made up of the other local dialects, for the number of persons is extremely small who speak English or other European languages, or languages which are foreign to Bengal. The distribution of the principal languages will be explained below, but a few words are necessary as to the composition of the various groups. Common vernaculars.

376. The great group of Kolarian languages has its home in the plateau of Chota Nagpore, and its dialects, which are detailed in the margin, are spoken by a numerous people, who, under different clan and tribe names, have the common national characteristics of short stature, dark complexion, and irregular features. The Sonthals have long since dissociated themselves a good deal from their more primitive brethren, but linguistic affinities still attest their connection. Under the general name of Kol, as has already been explained in the chapter on religions, are included many different clans besides the pure Kols, who call themselves such, without any further specification. The Mundas or Mundaris compose the largest of the separate Kol clans, and are among the best known of the natives of the Chota Nagpore hills. Kolarian languages.

Sonthali	...	1,120,446
Kol	...	961,942
Munda	...	64,833
Bheel	...	19

377. The constituents of the Dravidian group are set forth in the margin. The inclusion of the Malers in this class is, however, open to question; for although Colonel Dalton unhesitatingly places them among the Dravidians, the correctness of this classification has been doubted by later inquirers, and it is further to be noted that probably the mother-tongue of many persons speaking Mal Pahariya, the language of the Rajmahal hillmen, has by inadvertence been returned as Maler. The Kandh language is spoken by the barbarous tribes of that name who inhabit the highlands of the Tributary States of Orissa, and were notorious till a comparatively late date for their practice of human sacrifice. The Oraons, with whom should be classed the Dhangars, come from the eastern portion of the Chota Nagpore plateau, and are at once the most widely disseminated and the most generally known of the inhabitants of those regions, while the Gonds connect Bengal with the Central Provinces, where they are very numerous. Dravidian languages.

Maler	...	57,777
Kandh	...	52,357
Oraon	...	38,982
Dhangari	...	4,119
Gondi	...	1,294

378. Ths group of languages of the Northern Borders is a very small one, because Nepali, Bhutia, and Lepcha have unavoidably been shown, not as Indian languages, but as those of countries outside our border. If these languages were admitted as languages of the Northern Borders, the total would be much higher, as will be seen from a reference to the margin, where they are shown in brackets. Nepalese in its purity, and in its modified form—locally known as Paharia—is spoken by the thousands of immigrant coolies and their families who find employment in the tea estates of Darjeeling and Julpigoree and in the indigo factories of Chumparun. Bhutia or Tibetan is the mother-tongue of the sturdy inhabitants of Bhutan, large numbers of whom have settled within our frontiers. Lepcha is the language of the natives of Sikkim; and seeing that it is not many years since the district of Darjeeling was formed out of the territory of that state, it is surprising to find that the language has so few representatives within the British boundaries. The Limbus (or Kairantis) are a people whom ethnologists find a difficulty in classifying; but their habitat is on the slopes of the lower Himalayas to the west of Bhutan, and on the whole it seems to be probable that they are a Mongolian race akin to the Lepchas, but with some traces of linguistic affinity with the Kols. It is likely that many of them have returned their mother-tongue either as Lepcha or "Paharia." The Murmi tongue is not much more than a dialect of the Bhutia or Tibetan, and it seems likely that the Murmis are really only a subdivision of the Bhutia family. Languages of the Northern Borders.

(Nepali	...	89,855)
(Bhutia or Tibetan	...	11,850)
(Lepcha	...	4,611)
Murmi	...	652
Limbu	...	277

379. The languages of the Northern Frontier are—Garrow (spoken by 24,949 persons), Manipuri (by 127), and Khassia (by one solitary individual). Manipuri is the language of the subjects of a petty prince who rules over the state of that name; it has affinities with the language of the Nagas of the hills, whose presence Languages of the Northern Frontier.

is a perpetual source of anxiety to British authority on the frontier. The Garrows, with whom the Khassias are nearly allied, dwell in the extreme north-western corner of the mountainous tract that extends from Cape Negrais to the Brahmaputra, from which secure retreat they send out considerable numbers of emigrants into both Bengal and Assam. At the census just taken 23,620 of the whole were found in the neighbouring district of Mymensingh, with colonies in Cooch Behar and Julpigoree. Colonel Dalton considers that they are the primitive type of the great Mech, Kachari, or Bodo nation, which is again closely allied to the Koch or Paliya, who once held extensive sway in north-eastern Bengal.

Languages of the Assam Valley.

380. The languages which Colonel Dalton has classified in a separate group as those of the Assam Valley are spoken by 17,131 persons in Bengal, in the following proportions:—Mechi 11,101, Koch 5,631, and Assamese 399. The home of the Mech is in the Julpigoree district, where almost the whole of the 11,101 were found, and they spread thence westward beyond British territory into the Nepal Terai. They are remarkable for the fact that they appear to live and thrive only in the dense jungles and the unhealthy low lands of the Terai, which are so fatal to members of other nationalities. The numbers of the great Koch tribe, and the true extent of their language, are greatly understated by the 5,631 of the census returns. Colonel Dalton believes them to be of Dravidian origin, basing his conclusion on the extreme blackness of their complexion and on certain linguistic connections which he considers that he has established between their language and that of admittedly Dravidian clans. But however this may be, there is clear evidence that they were once a very numerous race, and that they ruled for two centuries a great kingdom, which comprised the Bengal districts of Rungpore and Dinagepore, and the districts of Kamrup and Gowalpara in Assam. About the year 1750 A.D., however, which was one of great confusion and misery throughout Upper India, their power was broken up, and their kingdom has dwindled into the small state of Cooch (or Koch) Behar in north-eastern Bengal. Their unmistakable darkness of colour is found to this day very largely in Rungpore and Dinagepore, and they have supplied the great majority of the converts to Mahomedanism in those districts. Nevertheless, none of these persons have returned their mother-tongue as Koch, having long since abandoned it for Bengali; and as the inhabitants of Cooch Behar have adopted the same fashion, the only speakers of the Koch tongue in Bengal would seem to be two outlying colonies in the Dacca and Mymensingh districts.

Languages of the Eastern Borders.

381. The languages of the Eastern Borders are spoken by 15,804 persons, of whom 95 speak Tipperah and the remainder the language of the Mughs. The Tipperah tongue is hardly deserving of the name of a separate language, but is rather a dialect of that of the Kacharis and the Kukis of the eastern frontier. The Tipperahs inhabit the independent state of that name, and the 95 persons who spoke that language were stray immigrants into the neighbouring British districts. The Mughs, on the contrary, are a people with a most interesting history, which has now been well nigh forgotten. Their home is in Arrakan and in the hills which separate that province from Bengal; but their king once ruled an extensive kingdom, while their piratical incursions depopulated the Chittagong coast and the Bengal Sunderbuns, and taxed severely the resources of the Mogul Viceroy of Dacca. A vestige of their power is still to be found in the Backergunge district, where a colony long since planted by Mugh buccaneers and now consisting of 4,225 persons still maintains the language and traditions of their original home. The remainder of the Mughs found in Bengal were in Chittagong and its Hill Tracts.

Languages from other Provinces.

382. The component parts of the general group designated as "Languages from Other Presidencies" are given in the margin. The reason of the preponderance of languages spoken in the Madras presidency has already been indicated, and need not be repeated. The speakers of Malayalim were found, some as sailors at Chittagong, and the remainder in Calcutta and its suburbs. Canarese was spoken by a small colony (13 persons) in Julpigoree, and by another group at Cuttack. Of the languages of western India, Guzrati has the

Telegu	...	11,310
Tamil	...	1,623
Madrasi	...	632
Malayalim	...	65
Canarese	...	34
Guzrati	...	1,068
Marathi	...	344
Marwari	...	3,363
Punjabi	...	608
Burmese	...	1,584

most numerous representatives, almost all of whom are in Calcutta—some as traders, others on boardships in the port. Of the Marathi-speaking population, Calcutta and its neighbourhood have about half; but the occurrence of 110 in the Orissa Division is a relic of the troublous times of Mahratta occupation, which is as interesting as it was unexpected. The Marwaris are found in many districts of the province, though they are much understated at 3,363. There can be no doubt that in very many cases their language was returned as Hindustani, of which it is in fact a dialect. The districts which return the largest number of them are Lohardugga and the Tributary States of Chota Nagpore, where the banking business is to a very large extent in their hands. Punjabi, spoken by the wandering traders from the north-western frontier, or by stray emigrants avoiding justice or seeking work, has representatives in nearly every district in Bengal. Three-fourths of the Burmese speakers were found in Chittagong, and almost all the remainder in Calcutta.

383. Details of the other Asiatic languages and of the European languages, including those of the United Kingdom, have already been given in paragraphs 337 to 339 above.

Local distribution of the main vernaculars.

384. It has been stated that the main vernaculars of Bengal, viz. Bengali, Hindustani, and Uriya, are spoken by nearly 96 per cent of the whole people, and the following table explains their distribution and that of other chief groups of languages. The number of separate languages returned in the census schedules amounts to seventy after excluding all those the names of which were unintelligible or which were mere district dialects. It is, however, as impossible as it is unnecessary to examine in detail the distribution of all these, and accordingly the following table takes cognizance only of those which are spoken by 100,000 persons or more, and of English:—

No. 42.—Statement showing the Chief Languages spoken by 10,000 *persons in each Division and Province.*

Division and Province.	Bengali.	Hindi, Hindustani, and Urdu.	Uriya.	Kolarian languages.	Dravidian languages.	English.	Not stated.	All others.
Burdwan Division	8,854	210	615	309	2	3	2	3
Presidency „	9,451	447	45	4	1	30	8	12
Rajshahye „	9,425	107	1	11	.....	1	3	150
Dacca „	9,908	50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
Chittagong „	9,665	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	286	36
All Bengal Proper	*9,520*	*185*	*138*	*67*	.....	*8*	*31*	*27*
Patna Division	2	9,990	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	4
Bhaugulpore „	1,165	7,985	1	760	72	2	5	10
All Behar	*407*	*9,291*	.....	*265*	*25*	*2*	*2*	*7*
Orissa	*77*	*244*	*9,634*	*11*	.....	*2*	*4*	*26*
Chota Nagpore	*2,160*	*5,089*	*228*	*2,401*	*22*	*4*	*87*	*7*
The Province	*5,365*	*3,657*	*627*	*280*	*10*	*5*	*8*	*46*
Feudatory States	*2,220*	*1,435*	*4,444*	*967*	*291*	.....	*625*	*19*
The Whole Province, including Feudatory States.	*5,237*	*3,566*	*783*	*309*	*22*	*5*	*48*	*30*

385. The Divisions in which Bengali is most extensively spoken are of course those which from their position are least exposed to immigration. In Dacca accordingly 99·08 per cent of the population speak Bengali; Chittagong has a percentage almost as high for the districts in which information was obtained as to mother-tongue, but the occurrence within the Division of the Chittagong Hill Tracts swells the number of persons of "unspecified" language, and thus reduces the proportion of those speaking Bengali; the figures for the Presidency Division are lowered by its large number of up-country immigrants speaking Hindustani, and by its European and Uriya population; Rajshahye has a large proportion of Nepalese and Bhutias as

well as many Hindustani-speaking immigrants in Darjeeling and Julpigoree; lastly, the Bengali of the Burdwan Division, which is the most westerly of the Divisions of Bengal proper, merges through Midnapore into the Uriya of the south, and through Bankoorah and Beerbhoom on the west into the Hindustani and the Kolarian tongues of the Chota Nagpore and Bhaugulpore Divisions. But Bengali is nowhere so completely the language of the people as Hindustani is in Patna. In that Division only ten men in 10,000 speak any other language, the ten exceptions being composed of the Nepalese in Chumparun, a few Bengalis in its towns, and a few English in the cantonments of Dinapore and the indigo factories and civil stations of other districts. Bhaugulpore, on the other hand, has a much more varied vocabulary, and exceeds any other Division in the incongruity of its ethnological element; in eastern Purneah and in Maldah it has a considerable Bengali-speaking population, amounting to 11 per cent of the whole; the Sonthal Pergunnahs contain a large number of persons speaking Sonthali and other Kolarian tongues; while the Rajmehal hillmen provide the Dravidian ingredient. In Orissa the bulk of the population speak the language of the country, and the proportion of Bengalis is surprisingly low. The Hindustanis here are probably immigrants from the Central Provinces or pilgrims to Jaggannath. About half the population of the Chota Nagpore Division speak a species of Hindustani, the other half being pretty evenly divided among the immigrants from Bengal and the borders of Singbhoom and Manbhoom who speak Bengali, and the less advanced tribesmen who have not yet divested themselves of their aboriginal language or religions to affect the faith, the manners, and the speech of the Hindus. In the Feudatory States, as might have been expected from the heterogeneous character of the group, languages are more evenly distributed than elsewhere. The large proportion of unspecified (625 in 10,000) is due to the inclusion of Hill Tipperah within the group. Most of the 2,220 Bengali-speakers live in Cooch Behar, almost all the Hindustani-speakers in the States of Chota Nagpore, and almost all the Uriyas in those of Orissa; while the other languages are divided in equal numbers between the two groups of States last named.

Conclusion.

386. Taking the province as a whole, more than one half, or nearly 36½ million persons, speak Bengali; more than one-third, or nearly 25 millions, speak Hindustani; the Uriya-speaking population compose nearly 8 per cent, and number 5½ millions; the various Kol dialects are spoken by over two millions, or 3 per cent of the whole; and the remaining languages are the mother-tongue of less than a million persons, among whom the community whose mother-tongue is English number only 37,464 in all.

Census of Bengal, 1881.

EMIGRATION.

Table showing the number of Persons born in each District, Division, and Province

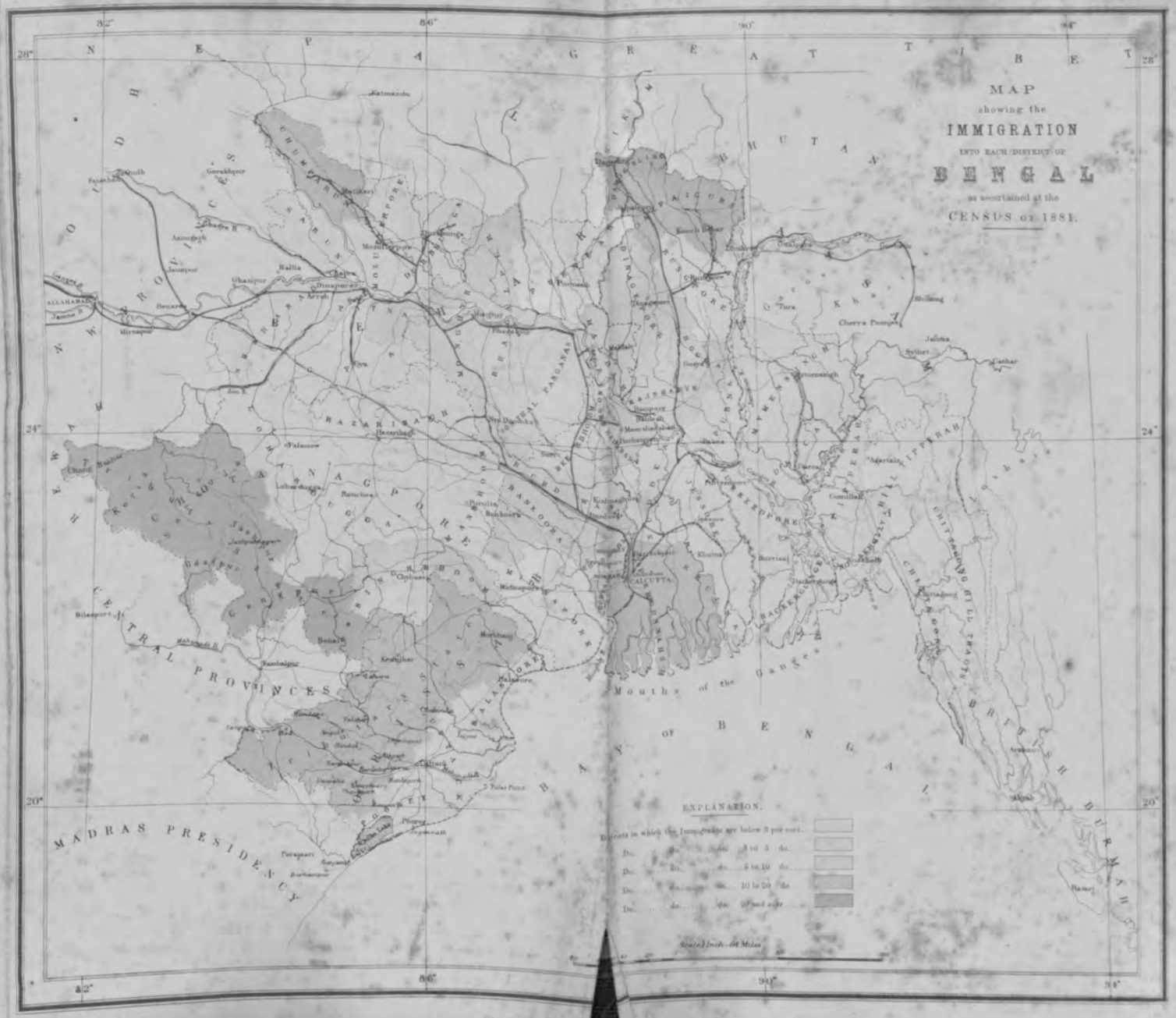
found elsewhere in Bengal at the Census of 1881,

AND THE PROPORTION WHICH THEY BEAR IN EVERY 100 PERSONS BORN IN THE LOCALITY.

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.	Emigrants. Number.	Emigrants. Percentage.
BENGAL.		
BURDWAN. Burdwan	132,095	9·27
Bankurah	79,337	7·42
Beerbhoom	61,964	7·65
Midnapore	131,204	5·06
Hooghly	169,556	15·44
Howrah	17,875	3·32
Burdwan Division	*346,028*	*4·58*
PRESIDENCY. 24-Pergunnahs and Suburbs	70,544	3·46
Calcutta	64,485	33·35
Nuddea	139,477	6·75
Jessore	80,154	3·64
Khulna*	Not available.	
Moorshedabad	80,537	6·58
Presidency Division	*195,400*	*2·53*
RAJSHAHYE. Dinagepore	34,084	2·31
Rajshahye	43,785	3·33
Rungpore	58,712	2·78
Bogra	17,020	2·39
Pubna	61,580	4·66
Darjeeling	1,751	2·31
Julpigooree	27,507	5·26
Rajshahye Division	*119,573*	*1·59*
DACCA. Dacca	103,760	4·93
Furreedpore	88,145	5·37
Backergunge	45,909	2·43
Mymensingh	45,223	1·50
Dacca Division	*141,663*	*1·63*
CHITTAGONG. Chittagong	13,161	1·16
Noakhully	19,568	2·37
Tipperah	16,298	1·74
Chittagong Hill Tracts	Not available.	
Chittagong Division	*39,825*	*1·14*
ALL BENGAL PROPER	*1,151,332*	*3·33*

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.	Emigrants. Number.	Emigrants. Percentage.
BEHAR.		
PATNA. Patna	149,931	8·46
Gya	174,431	7·84
Shahabad	112,408	5·62
Mozufferpore	205,083	7·05
Durbhunga	83,086	3·20
Sarun	191,152	8·00
Chumparun	39,998	3·49
Patna Division	*442,489*	*2·90*
BHAUGULPORE. Monghyr	153,884	7·89
Bhaugulpore	134,870	6·63
Purneah	90,450	4·87
Maldah	29,033	4·33
Sonthal Pergunnahs	29,515	2·03
Bhaugulpore Division	*210,785*	*2·65*
ALL BEHAR	*397,906*	*1·71*
ORISSA.		
ORISSA. Cuttack	138,093	7·49
Pooree	27,753	5·14
Balasore	46,111	4·18
Angul	6,319	7·02
Banki	3,689	8·21
ALL ORISSA	*152,560*	*5·98*
CHOTA NAGPORE.		
CHOTA NAGPORE. Hazaribagh	70,705	6·29
Lohardugga	60,760	3·79
Singbhoom	127,222	23·09
Manbhoom	56,219	5·54
ALL CHOTA NAGPORE	*255,431*	*5·88*
FEUDATORY STATES.		
FEUDATORY STATES. Cooch Behar	1,316	·27
Hill Tipperah	Not available.	
Tributary States, Orissa	28,790	2·18
Ditto, Chota Nagpore	8,764	1·78
ALL FEUDATORY STATES	*35,102*	*1·56*

* The Khulna figures are amalgamated with those for the districts of Jessore and the 24-Pergunnahs.


MAP
showing the
IMMIGRATION
INTO EACH DISTRICT OF
BENGAL
as ascertained at the
CENSUS OF 1881.
EXPLANATION.
Districts in which the Immigrants are below 2 per cent.
Do. do. 2 to 5 do.
Do. do. 5 to 10 do.
Do. do. 10 to 20 do.
Do. do. 20 and over
Scale 1 inch = 64 Miles
NEPAL
GREAT TIBET
BHUTAN
ASSAM
BAY OF BENGAL
Mouths of the Ganges
MADRAS PRESIDENCY
CENTRAL PROVINCES
NORTH WESTERN PROVINCES
Katmandu
Calcutta
Darjeeling
Cherra Poonjee
Shillong
Sylhet
Akyab
Ramri

CHAPTER XI.

STATISTICS OF OCCUPATIONS.

(Table XII, pages 367 to 422 of Appendix B, and Tables XXVII to XXXI, pages 767 to 936 of Appendix C.)

Introductory

387. In these tables are set forth details of the occupations of the people of Bengal collected from every district except that of the Chittagong Hill Tracts and the State of Hill Tipperah, where no attempt was made to obtain the necessary information. The population, therefore, which comes within the scope of this enquiry numbered 69,339,627 persons, of whom 34,517,587 were males and 34,822,040 were females. Besides the detail of sex which is common to almost all the tables of the present census, the occupations of the people are shown in combination with each of two other factors, viz. religion and locality. The element of age was at one time suggested, but abandoned on the ground that it would hopelessly complicate the tables. In other provinces the attempt has been made, at any rate in the larger towns; but, with the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor, even this partial adoption of the measure was omitted in Bengal. Indeed, the task of preparing the tables as they stand was so laborious that it must have proved well nigh insuperable if it had been complicated by the addition of any further information.

Great difficulties of the task.

388. The compilation of the statistics with which this chapter deals was the most tedious, complicated, and delicate task in the whole of the operations of the census. It demanded the most careful attention of the most experienced clerks; while its details were so bewildering, and the mass of figures involved was so enormous, that it was found necessary to interpolate many intermediate processes of examination between the first returns and the final tables, and to subject the figures to reiterated and exhaustive checking. It is not too much to say that to the single subject of occupations must be debited at least one-third of all the labour, time, and money expended upon the preparation of the census tables. No regret would be felt for all the labour and money lavished on these tables, could it be believed that they furnished an adequate return; but unhappily this is not the case. After great efforts the statistics have been extracted from the schedules and marshalled in order; but it is equally impossible to deny the fact that the information given in the schedules was in many cases vague or insufficient, or to assert that it has been set forth on the system best suited to display the chief characteristics of employment in Bengal.

Want of definiteness in the returns.

389. The difficulty of securing specific information, great everywhere, has peculiar and special force in India. Particular attention was given to this point in the "Instructions to Enumerators" with regard to the recording of occupations; and though it is believed that the result has been somewhat more successful than in 1872, yet it is still far from the truth. General descriptions are the delight of the native and the curse of the statistician. The enormous number of entries, and the frequency of these vague statements, entirely precluded detailed enquiry into each, and they had to be accepted as they stood. Many instances might be adduced, but the following will suffice:—The word "service" (*naukari* or *chakari*) is used in Bengal indiscriminately to describe every kind of paid labour that is not that of the artisan or the agriculturist: it includes not only the paid Government servant, but the door-keeper of a private house, the entire range of petty official establishment, zemindari servants of all grades, and the menial servants of the whole community. Efforts were made to provide for the separate exhibition of the figures for all the various classes, but they have been defeated by vagueness of definition in the schedules, so that out of 1,194,727 males in the Sub-order of Domestic Servants, Attendants, &c., 262,074 have unavoidably been entered under "Service not further specified," and 536,460 under "Other servants." Again, the indefinite entry "*dukandari*" or "shop-keeping" was of constant occurrence, as evidenced by the fact that under it are recorded 363,114 males, or 90 per cent of the whole shop-keeping group. Lastly,

although it was the particular desire of the Census Authorities that the different classes of cultivators should be separately shown, this object has been entirely defeated by the return of 11,264,942 males, or 86 per cent of the whole Sub-order of Agriculturists, as "cultivator" only, without any further specification.

Plurality of occupations.

390. Besides the difficulty of vagueness of definition, there was that of plurality of occupations. In a country like England, which has advanced far in the path of civilisation, and where the subdivision of labour has been carried to its fullest extent, the number of small occupations is enormous; but they are capable of the sharpest definition, and the very technical character of most of them requires that each should be the sole occupation of those who follow it. In India, on the other hand, or in countries where, as in parts of the United States of America, the struggle for employment is not so great, and where the competition of labour has not produced so many specialists, a large proportion of the population make their living out of two or more occupations. The instructions to the enumerators in Bengal in cases of this sort coincided with those issued in England, and directed that the principal of one or more occupations should be shown. This solution of the difficulty has the merit of simplicity, and much facilitated the operations of the enumerators; but inasmuch as it has caused anomalous statistics to be presented under certain employments, it demanded a word of explanation. The same difficulty was felt at the American census of 1880, and the remarks of the Superintendent are so much to the point that no apology is required for reproducing them here :—

"In addition to the apparent deficiencies or discrepancies which have been noted, one general remark will suffice in explanation of many of the entries in the tables in respect to the accuracy of which question may naturally arise.

"It must be borne in mind that the number of persons who are reported under certain specified occupations does not necessarily embrace all the persons who perform the duties usually associated with that title, but only those who discharge such duties to the exclusion of other gainful occupations, or, at least, as their principal or sole professed means of support.

"The organisation of labour and the subdivision of industry vary in respect to completeness and minuteness with each successive community. As communities advance in industrial character functions become separated, and distinct occupations become recognised; and this country, from its peculiar conditions, presents almost every degree between the two extremes of industrial development in this particular. It is common to find in the returns from the present territories, and even some of the present states of the Union, such entries as these :—"Carpenter and miner," "Blacksmith and miner," "Blacksmith and carpenter;" and in many of the communities of the land it is difficult to draw distinctions much finer than these between the agricultural, the mining, the mechanical, and the commercial pursuit or profession. Indeed, even this is not always practicable, since it is matter of notoriety that in many states of the Union, and those not among the newest, the occupations of carpenter and farmer, or blacksmith and farmer, or farmer and fisherman, are united in one person. In large and more prosperous communities a clear separation between such occupations takes place: yet the carpenter, for instance, in nine out of ten countries in the United States performs half a dozen functions which in cities are recognised as belonging to distinct trades.

"The same general process occurs in agricultural, commercial, and professional employments. Thus the tables show 112,840 traders and dealers whose branch of trade is not specified. The want of specification here is not due to the neglect of enumerators, but to the fact that these persons so characterised are actually selling agricultural implements, books and stationery, boots and shoes, &c., through pretty much the entire line of articles sold by those other dealers whose departments are defined because the communities in which they dwell and deal are sufficiently large to allow of the minute subdivision of trade.

"If, therefore, we look at those occupations which emerge as distinct employments only in communities where the organisation of industry and the subdivision of labour are carried to a high degree, the number of persons engaged will appear to be impossibly small, unless the above considerations are borne carefully in mind."

Authorised classification not altogether suitable.

391. But even if the information obtained from the enumerators' schedules had been absolutely accurate, it is submitted that the statistical value of the tables in which they are shown would not have been very great, because the system of classification which has been adopted is not altogether suitable for India. It is now too late to reopen the whole question of classification, but it is impossible to comment on the figures obtained without noticing some of the anomalies they contain and explaining the causes from which these arose. The classification adopted was that employed by Dr. Farr for the classification of occupations at the English census of 1871, and which was forced at the same time upon the Census Officers of Scotland and Ireland. It divides the whole community, male and female, according to their occupations into six Classes, which are again broken

up into eighteen Orders and eighty-two Sub-orders. This arrangement will be better understood if a reference is made to the accompanying scheme :—

CLASSIFICATION ADOPTED FOR THE RETURN OF OCCUPATIONS.

Classes.	Orders.	Sub-orders.
(I.)—Professional ...	1. Government	National Government.
		Local do.
		Colonial do.
	2. Defence	Army.
		Navy.
	3. Learned Professions and Art, Literature, and Science.	Clergy and others connected with religion.
		Lawyers and law stationers.
		Medicine, Physicians, Surgeons, and Druggists.
		Literature, Authors, literary persons, and students.
		Artists.
		Musicians.
		Actors.
		Teachers.
		Scientific persons.
(II.)—Domestic ...	4. Wives and women engaged generally in household duties, but assisting in certain cases in the husbands' business.	Wives and others mainly engaged in household duties.
		Wives assisting generally in their husbands' duties.
	5. Persons engaged in entertaining and performing personal offices for man.	Engaged in board and lodging.
		Attendants.
(III.)—Commercial ..	6. Persons who buy, sell, keep or lend money, houses, or goods of any description.	Mercantile persons.
		Other general dealers.
	7. Persons engaged in the conveyance of men, animals, goods, and messages.	Carriers on Railways.
		„ „ Roads.
		„ „ Canals and rivers.
		„ „ Seas and rivers.
		Engaged in storage.
		Messengers and porters.
(IV.)—Agricultural.	8. Agriculturists	Agriculturists.
		Arboriculturists.
	9. Persons engaged about animals.	Horticulturists.
		Persons engaged about animals.
(V.)—Industrial ...	10. Workers and dealers in mixed materials.	Workers and dealers in books.
		„ Musical instruments.
		„ Prints and pictures.
		„ Carving and figures.
		„ Tackle for sports and games.
		„ Designs, medals, and dies.
		„ Watches and philosophical instruments.
		„ Surgical instruments.
		„ Arms.
		„ Machines and tools.
		„ Carriages.
		„ Harness.
		„ Ships.
		„ Houses and buildings.
		„ Furniture.
		„ Chemicals.
	11. Ditto in textile fabrics and dress.	„ Wool and worsted.
		„ Silk.
		„ Cotton and flax.
		„ Mixed materials.
		„ Dress.
		„ Hemp and other fibrous materials
	12. Ditto in food and drinks ...	„ Animal food.
		„ Vegetable food.
		„ Drinks and stimulants.
	13. Ditto in animal substances	Workers and dealers in grease, bones, horn, ivory, and whale-bone.
		„ Skins, feathers, and quills.
		„ Hair.
	14. Ditto in vegetable substances.	„ Gums, resins, and vegetable oil.
		„ Wood.
		„ Bark.
		„ Cane, rush, and straw.
		„ Paper.
	15. *Ditto in* mineral substances	Miners.
		Workers and dealers in coal.
		„ Stone and clay.
		„ Earthenware.
		„ Glass.
		„ Salt.
		„ Water.
		„ Gold, silver, and precious stones.
		„ Copper.
		„ Tin and quicksilver.
		„ Zinc
		„ Lead and antimony.
		„ Brass and other mixed metals
		„ Iron and steel.
(VI.)—Indefinite and Non-productive.	Labourers and others (branch of labour undefined)	General labourers.
		Other persons of indefinite occupations.
	17 Persons of rank or property not returned under any office or occupation ...	Persons of rank or property not returned under any office or occupation.
	18. Persons of no specified occupation	Persons unemployed, or whose occupation was not stated.

392. Under each of these Sub-orders, moreover, were a number of main or principal occupations, which altogether amount to 487, and under each of which the smaller occupations kindred to it were to be clustered.

Some objections to it.

393. To the arrangement of Classes, Orders, and Sub-orders no exception could be taken, although the position of some Sub-orders seemed somewhat unsuitable to India. What gave rise to the strongest criticism was the selection of those employments which were to be considered the main or principal occupations in each Sub-order, and their allotment to the various Sub-orders. It was argued that many of the occupations which in England are the most important, because they are followed by the largest number of workers, have either no counterpart at all in Bengal, or that, if they have, the number of persons engaged is so small that the occupation does not rise to a prominent position. It was pointed out that if the main occupations of the English classification were adopted for Bengal, there would be a complete loss of proportions, and that an occupation which is followed by a million persons would stand on the same plane as one which has a single representative. Thus, taking at random the second Sub-order of Order I, viz. "Officers of municipal, local, and village government," it was submitted that the various callings of "Sheriff," "Executioner," and "Coroner" were neither so popular, so distinguished, or so largely followed in India, as to justify their position as principal occupations in the list. So again in Order V, Sub-order 1, it was suggested that the heading "Bath and wash-house service," or "Lady's companion," as well as those of "Crocodile-catcher," "Game-keeper," and "Tiger-keeper," in Order IX, would not have many representatives in these provinces. To Order IV wholesale objection was taken, because the directions to enumerators distinctly enjoined the entry of women as unemployed unless they had a specific separate employment. In the second place it was feared that the tables, if filled up, would be extremely misleading. The farmer in England is a very different person from the man who bears the same name in Bengal, where the word would certainly convey to the compiling clerks the idea rather of a contractor than of the burly representative of British nationality. Lastly, the main occupations, it was argued, while they provided a number of subdivisions of the Sub-order, many of which would be quite unrepresented in Bengal, did not, on the other hand, sufficiently subdivide certain headings of which in India it was important to get separate statistics. Thus, the expression "Tenant-cultivator" in Order VIII, Sub-order 1, includes under one heading agriculturists whose status differs from each other to the widest possible extent, as do the various classes who were classed under "Broker, agent" in Order VI, Sub-order 1. The Government of Bengal signified their general concurrence with these criticisms, and suggested that the local Census Officer should be allowed to adopt a classification more suited to the known conditions of the country; but the Government of India, acting upon the advice of the Census Commissioner, found itself unable to sanction the deviation, on the ground that uniformity of plan in all the provinces of the empire was absolutely essential in order to enable the Census Commissioner to compile the imperial tables for the whole of India and to supply the Registrar-General in England with a symmetrical table of statistics of occupation.

An additional classification sanctioned.

394. Under these circumstances the figures in Tables XII and XXIX have been arranged in strict accordance with the classified list and scheme promulgated by the Census Commissioner, and they show separately the occupations of the townsfolk and the village folk. But with the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal another classification was prepared, and Tables XXVII and XXVIII, which show also the religions of the occupied, were prepared in accordance therewith. The difference between the two schemes is not very great, since the Census Commissioner forbade any radical changes; but it is believed that some misplacing of Sub-orders has been corrected, and an effort was made to remedy the disproportions in the relative importance of the main occupations in each Sub-order. It is thought that the results of the local classification are more true to the facts than those given by the classification of the Census Commissioner, and attention is therefore directed in the following paragraphs to the former rather than to the latter.

395. It will be gathered, however, from the foregoing remarks that both because of the difficulties of correct enumeration and of the infirmities of the classification used in compiling the figures only a general accuracy can be claimed for them. The statistics of each main occupation require to be taken with so many

provisos that it seems unadvisable to spend time in examining them; but the case is somewhat different with the Orders and Sub-orders. The totals of these groups are large; it may be admitted that the errors contained in the main occupations correct each other within the general total of the Sub-order, and it is therefore possible to feel confidence when examining such large units as the Classes, Orders, and Sub-orders of the occupation tables.

General distribution of the population.

396. Taking the figures, then, as they stand, the statement in the margin, prepared from Table No. XII, gives in an abstract form the leading facts concerning the occupation of the whole population in Bengal of all ages and both sexes. It will be seen, in the first place, that out of the whole population of both sexes 66·76 per cent belonged to the *Indefinite and Non-productive Class* at the time of the census, and that the proportion of this Class to the whole is nearly twice as great among the females as among the males. Of course a large proportion of the unproductives, both males and females, are children too young to work and aged persons who are beyond employment. It was shown in Chapter VIII that the proportion of children under 10 years old was 29·69 in every 100 persons, the boys being 29·84 and the girls 29·53 per cent. It was also demonstrated that the aged people 60 years old and upwards composed 5·58 per cent of the whole population, the sex proportions being 4·78 per cent for men and 6·38 per cent for women. Adding these percentages together, we shall find that 34·62 per cent of the males and 35·91 per cent of the females are not of an age to be gainfully employed; and if these figures be deducted from those of the non-productive Class, the result is that among those capable of active work 21·24 per cent of the men and 51·58 per cent of the women are without specific employment. The excess in the number of women is of course due to the number of wives and widows, who, having no other employment than household work, have been properly returned in this Class. The figures in Chapter VII show that the married and widowed females number altogether 70·27 per cent of the whole female population. Deducting from this the 6·38 per cent of aged women who may be supposed to be beyond work, there remains a balance of wives and widows equivalent to 63·89 of the female population. It has just been stated that the unemployed women of a working age are 51·58 per cent of the whole; and if this figure be deducted from the 63·89 per cent just quoted, it will be clear that out of the whole female population the wives and widows who are specifically employed are 12·31 per cent, and the wives and widows employed in domestic duties 51·58 per cent, thus giving less than one specifically employed woman to every four of the other class.

No. 43.—Statement showing the Occupations of the People of all Ages.
(From Table No. XII.)

Occupations.	Numbers.			Percentage.		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females	Both Sexes.
Class I.—Professional class...	624,538	57,117	681,655	1·80	·16	·98
Class II.—Domestic class ...	943,015	245,525	1,188,540	2·73	·70	1·71
Class III.—Commercial class	1,136,014	195,423	1,331,437	3·29	·56	1·92
Class IV.—Agricultural class	13,332,557	1,957,675	15,290,232	38·62	5·62	22·05
Class V.—Manufacturing and industrial class	2,651,132	1,900,181	4,551,313	7·68	5·45	6·56
Class VI.—Indefinite and non-productive class ...	15,830,331	30,466,119	46,296,450	45·86	87·49	66·76
Grand Total ...	34,517,587	34,822,040	69,339,627	100	100	100

397. The *Agricultural Class* absorbs two-thirds of the remainder of the population, showing how largely agricultural this country is. The proportions of the sexes employed in this Class give nearly seven males to one female—a result very different from that found in European countries, where women take so large a part in field work.

398. In the *Manufacturing and Industrial Class* 6·56 per cent of the whole population are employed, and, as was to be expected, it is in this Class that the nearest approximation is found in the proportions of the sexes employed. To the remaining three Classes the female population contributes hardly at all, and the males very little; the proportion of females being lowest in the *Professional Class* and highest in the *Domestic Class*, where they figure as nurses and female servants of all kinds.

The employments of males of a working age.

399. So large a proportion of the female population being returned as of the Indefinite and Non-productive Class, the consideration of the statistics for those few of them who are definitely employed may be postponed to a later part of this Chapter, and attention can first be turned to the occupations of the males. Moreover, as an examination of the employment of the males will be much simplified by the exclusion of the young who are not of an age to work, it will be well to begin by eliminating all those below 10 years of age, which, since no details of age were compiled in combination with occupations, can best be done by deducting from the unemployed the total of boys under 10 years of age. In the following table these particulars are given, with separate figures for each of the great Divisions into which Bengal is broken up. In default of actual age figures 10 years has been taken as the inferior limit of the working age for several reasons. It is not pretended that all boys 10 years old and upwards are helping to earn their own living; but it is believed that among the poorer classes, and especially those engaged in agriculture, the great majority of boys of this age are not at school, but are just beginning to assist in field work; and the same may be said of the artisan and commercial classes. No figures are available for any period between 10 and 15 years of age: so that if 10 years is rejected as too low a limit, it would be necessary to take the 15th year. That, however, is much too high, and it is believed that 10 years very nearly approaches the proper starting point. In European countries the inferior limit of the working age is fixed higher than this. In the reports on the census of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland taken in 1871 the population is broadly divided as regards their occupations at the 20th year of life, and detailed tables are given showing occupations in each of several other periods. The report on the Tenth Census of the United States shows the occupations of the population in three age groups, viz. 10 to 15 years, 16 to 59, and 60 and over; but the considerable number of boys under 15 years old who are employed in gainful occupations in that country may be gathered from the fact that they amount to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of all employed males.

No. 44.—Statement showing the Proportion of Males 10 years old and upwards employed in each of the Great Classes of Occupation. (From Table No. XXVII.)

DIVISIONS.	Total males 10 years old and over.	NUMBER.						PERCENTAGES.					
		Class I. Professional.	Class II. Domestic.	Class III. Commercial.	Class IV. Agricultural.	Class V. Industrial.	Class VI. Indefinite.	Class I. Professional.	Class II. Domestic.	Class III. Commercial.	Class IV. Agricultural.	Class V. Industrial.	Class VI. Indefinite.
Burdwan	*2,647,710*	91,679	*111,382*	94,206	*1,371,171*	279,507	*699,765*	3·46	*4·20*	*3·55*	51·78	*10·55*	26·42
Presidency	*3,030,690*	82,769	*173,851*	217,051	*1,519,114*	440,728	*597,177*	2·73	*5·73*	*7·16*	50·12	*14·54*	19·70
Rajshahye	*2,739,429*	54,161	*125,679*	113,971	*1,878,272*	203,924	*363,422*	1·97	*4·58*	*4·16*	68·56	*7·44*	13·26
Dacca	*3,008,113*	75,938	*129,901*	171,981	*2,001,559*	279,203	*349,531*	2·52	*4·31*	*5·71*	66·53	*9·28*	11·61
Chittagong	*1,160,826*	34,513	*48,673*	46,517	*641,969*	97,847	*291,307*	2·97	*4·19*	*4·00*	55·30	*8·42*	25·09
All Bengal Proper	*12,586,768*	*339,060*	*589,486*	*643,726*	*7,412,085*	*1,301,209*	*2,301,202*	*2·69*	*4·68*	*5·11*	*58·88*	*10·33*	*18·28*
Patna	*5,205,338*	62,406	*297,767*	176,902	*2,898,024*	341,680	*1,428,559*	1·19	*5·72*	*3·39*	55·67	*6·56*	27·44
Bhaugulpore	*2,794,468*	29,175	*192,919*	131,822	*1,554,184*	162,526	*723,842*	1·04	*6·90*	*4·71*	55·61	*5·81*	25·90
All Behar	*7,999,806*	*91,581*	*490,686*	*308,724*	*4,452,208*	*504,206*	*2,152,401*	*1·14*	*6·13*	*3·85*	*55·65*	*6·30*	*26·90*
Orissa	*1,285,695*	*43,749*	*40,661*	*22,918*	*709,586*	*138,026*	*330,755*	*3·40*	*3·16*	*1·78*	*55·19*	*10·73*	*25·72*
Chota Nagpore	*1,386,244*	*16,296*	*51,775*	*24,170*	*818,374*	*95,155*	*380,474*	*1·17*	*3·73*	*1·74*	*59·03*	*6·86*	*27·44*
ALL BENGAL ...	23,258,513	490,686	1,172,608	999,538	13,392,253	2,038,596	5,164,832	2·10	5·04	4·29	57·58	8·76	22·20
Feudatory States	*960,707*	*39,974*	*22,119*	*12,885*	*575,533*	*77,213*	*232,983*	*4·16*	*2·30*	*1·34*	*59·90*	*8·03*	*24·25*
ALL BENGAL, INCLUDING FEUDATORY STATES	24,219,220	530,660	1,194,727	1,012,423	13,967,786	2,115,809	5,397,815	219	4·93	4·18	57·67	8·73	22·28

400. Taking first the whole male population of the province 10 years old and upwards, it will be seen that in every 10,000 of them 5,767 are employed in agriculture, 873 in manufactures and manual industry, 493 as servants and attendants, nearly as many, or 418, in commerce and trade, 219 in the Professional Class, and the remainder 2,228, or not far short of one-fourth of the population, are returned as having no definite gainful employment.

401. The *Agricultural Class* absorbs more than half the population in every Division, ranging from 50·12 per cent in the Presidency Division to 68·56 per cent in that of Rajshahye. The four Divisions in which agriculture absorbs the largest proportion of the population are Rajshahye, Dacca, the Feudatory States, and Chota Nagpore, and the proportion in these is nowhere less than 59·03 per cent. Between these and the remaining six there is a considerable interval, the highest, Patna, having a percentage of 55·67. These figures are well borne out by those given in Table No. XXI, and by what has been said in Chapter IV concerning the distribution of the population into towns and villages; and the abstract in the margin shows the rank of each Division according to its total agricultural population in Table XXI and its employed agricultural males. This abstract shows that not even excepting the backward Divisions of Chota Nagpore and the Feudatory States, where handicrafts and trade are but feeble rivals to agriculture, the Divisions most largely given to agriculture are those of Rajshahye and Dacca. Both of these are mainly inhabited by Mahomedans; and it will be shown further on that among this people a larger proportion is engaged in agriculture than is the case with the followers of any other religion. The position of the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions in respect of agriculture needs no explanation.

Division.	Rank according to		Mean position.
	Males employed in agriculture (Table XXVII).	Agricultural population. (Table XXI).	
Burdwan	9	9	9
Presidency	10	10	10
Rajshahye	1	1	1
Dacca	3	2	2
Chittagong	6	7	6
Patna	5	5	5
Bhaugulpore	8	6	7
Orissa	7	8	8
Chota Nagpore	4	4	4
Feudatory States	2	3	3

402. It is equally obvious why the handicraftsmen *(Class V)* should bear so large a proportion to the whole population in those Divisions. The great city of Calcutta has more than 22 per cent of its male population 10 years old and upwards engaged in industrial and manufacturing pursuits. In the Howrah district the railway works, the large municipality, and the numerous jute and cotton mills, sufficiently explain the presence of a vast number of artisans; so that it is not surprising to see the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions first and third as regards manufactures and industries, with 14·54 per cent and 10·55 per cent respectively. Orissa owes its position as second on the list to its weavers (33,062), and to an unusually large number of the order of persons working and dealing in food and drink, viz. 46,264, many of whom doubtless minister to the wants of the pilgrims to Jagannath. Dacca, once so famous for its muslins, has still, though the trade is much decayed, 70,906 workers in textile fabrics, most of whom are cotton-weavers.

403. The *Commercial and Trading Class (III)* muster strongest in the Presidency Division, as was inevitable, and next to that is the Division of Dacca, owing partly to its great army of boatmen, and partly to the large number of traders attracted to its great riverside marts for rice and jute. In no other Division are they as many as 5 per cent of the total employed, being completely elbowed out by the agriculturists and the artisans.

404. The statistics of the *Domestic Class (II)* of the population present some curious variations; for while these persons compose 6·90 per cent in the Bhaugulpore Division, they are only 2·30 per cent of the population in the Feudatory States. The proportions in the Presidency and Patna Divisions are exactly the same as are those from Burdwan and Chittagong. It is hard to draw any general conclusions from such unexpected combinations as these; but it may be suggested that in these Divisions the want of accurate definition has been greatest, so that many persons have been entered under "Service" generally who should have been shown in the Professional Class under Government service, or in the Agricultural Class as zemindari servants.

405. The *Professional Class (I)* is most prominent in the Feudatory States and in the Burdwan and Orissa Divisions. In the former it would appear that the village officials have been most careful to record their status, for the Sub-order, which is composed of "Officers of local, municipal, and village government, is very largely represented among them, especially in Cooch Behar and the Orissa Tributary States. The position of Burdwan is due to 31,151 village and local officials and to 32,068 ministers of religion. Orissa, which is the most strongly Hindu Division in Bengal, has for its size an excessive proportion of priests (18,659) and less than one-third of the officials found in Burdwan. The small proportion returned from Patna (1·19 per cent) and Bhaugulpore (1·04 per cent) lends colour to the suggestion that the figures for attendants in those Divisions have been swelled at the expense of some of the official class."

406. Coming, lastly, to the *Indefinite and Non-productive Class (VI)*, it will be seen that the highest proportion is claimed by the Patna and Chota Nagpore Divisions, which have 27·44 per cent each, and are closely followed by Burdwan (with 26·42 per cent), Bhaugulpore (25·90 per cent), Orissa (25·72 per cent), and Chittagong (25·09 per cent). At the first glance the figures would seem to imply that these Divisions, in the order named, have the greatest proportion of idlers, belonging to the two extremes of the social scale—beggars and rich men. But a reference to the composition of this Class will show that this is not at all the case. The Class contains three Orders, viz. 16—"Labourers and others (branch of labour undefined);" 17—"Persons of rank or property not returned under any office or occupation;" and 18—"Persons of no specified occupation." It may be said at once that the number of unemployed persons of rank returned has been very small, and they may consequently be omitted from the calculation. But so long as this VIth Class contains the Order of "General labourers," it cannot be said to be one of idlers; and the size of the Class in each Division really turns upon the numbers of true general labourers it contains, and the extent to which looseness of definition has prevailed to swell this and to deplete other Orders. The abstract in the margin breaks up the VIth Class into its two most important component parts, and places the Divisions in a very different order. The unemployed persons are now found to be proportionately most numerous in Chittagong and Dacca, where the high percentage of scholars may have something to do with the figures; the large proportion of drones returned from the Feudatory States may be due to defective enumeration; and for the figures for Chittagong and Burdwan the same solution may be suggested as for those in Chittagong and Dacca. It now appears that Bhaugulpore is the least idle Division, and that the Presidency, Chota Nagpore, and Patna Divisions follow it in that order, with 44·47, 47·50, and 48 per cent respectively.

Division.	Percentage to total of Class VI of	
	General labourers.	Persons of no specified occupation.
Burdwan	40·92	58·01
Presidency	53·94	44·47
Rajshahye	44·98	54·32
Dacca	21·40	78·01
Chittagong	17·58	82·31
Patna	52·00	48·00
Bhaugulpore	61·91	37·93
Orissa	35·66	64·27
Chota Nagpore	52·06	47·50
Feudatory States	23·78	76·22

The occupations of the urban and rural population.

407. Under the instructions of the Census Commissioner, the occupations of the people were separated according as they were followed by the dwellers in towns or villages. Full details of the separate figures district by district will be found for each Class, Order, and Sub-order in Table No. XII, and for the larger individual occupations in Table No. XXIX. An abstract of the figures for male occupations is given in the margin. From this abstract the question of age has been entirely eliminated, because it is impossible to get separate statistics of age for the town and the village population. The figures accordingly are those for the whole male population *of all ages*. This abstract shows the proportions in which 100 males following the occupations of each Order are divided between the town and the country: in other words, it shows how far the callings grouped together in each Order are those of the urban and how far those of the rural population. The males employed in towns are not much more than one-twentieth part of the whole male population; and the comparative excess of the adults in towns will be recognised if it is noticed that whereas the ratio of males in towns to the whole is 5·69 per cent, the ratio of unemployed males in towns is 5·33 per cent only. The gross total of townsfolk being so much smaller than that of the urban population, it is not to be wondered at that the numbers engaged in every occupation should be absolutely much lower in the urban than in the rural population: in point of fact there is no approximation between the proportions except in the solitary case of Order 2—"Persons engaged in the defence of the country," where out of every 100 men who are employed in the Order 45·15 per cent were found in towns and 54·83 per cent outside them. With the solitary exception of these garrisons, however, the village folk furnish by far the largest share of the employed in any Order of occupations, thus demonstrating clearly how simple the handicrafts and trade of Bengal are, how little they require the superior knowledge and greater capital which in more advanced and richer countries have drawn together to special centres guilds of merchants and artificers to the great improvement of their work and to their own profit. The profession of agriculture is of course more exclusively rural than any other, 98·36 per cent of the cultivators living in towns and only 1·63 per cent in villages. The Order of general labourers (Order 16) stands second, with 92·16 persons so employed in every 100 living in villages. Orders 1 (Persons engaged in the general or local government of the country), 9 (Persons engaged about animals), 14 (Persons working in vegetable substances), and 17 (Persons of rank or property not returned under any office or occupation), have also more than 90 per cent of their representatives among the rural population.

No. 45.—*Statement showing the Proportions of the Male Population, Urban and Rural, respectively, in each Order of Occupations. (From Table No. XII.)*

Order.	Urban population.	Rural population.
1. Persons engaged in the general or local government of the country	9·69	90·30
2. Persons engaged in the defence of the country	45·16	54·83
3. Persons engaged in the learned professions, and in literature, art, and science, with their immediate subordinates	11·46	88·53
4. Wives	.....	.....
5. Persons engaged in entertaining and performing personal offices for man	21·11	78·88
6. Persons who buy or sell, keep or lend money, houses, or goods of various kinds	20·51	79·48
7. Persons engaged in the conveyance of men, animals, goods, and messages	18·25	81·74
8. Persons possessing or working the land and engaged in growing grain, fruits, grasses, and other products	1·63	98·36
9. Persons engaged about animal	9·54	90·45
10. Persons engaged in art and mechanic productions	23·41	76·58
11. Persons working and dealing in the textile fabrics and dress	11·53	88·46
12. Persons working and dealing in food and drink	11·59	88·40
13. Persons working and dealing in animal substances	12·46	87·53
14. Persons working and dealing in vegetable substances	9·99	90·00
15. Persons working and dealing in minerals	11·86	88·13
16. Labourers and others (branch of labour undefined)	7·83	92·16
17. Persons of rank or property not returned under any office or occupation	9·58	90·41.
18. Persons of no specified occupation	5·33	94·66
All Occupations	5·69	94·30

408. The converse of the facts just discussed will be found abstracted in the margin. The present statement shows, not what proportion of the followers of a trade belong to the urban or to the rural population respectively, but what in every 100 townsmen and every 100 villagers is the number employed in each of the 18 groups of callings. The excess of adults in towns is again demonstrated by the fact that the unemployed males are only 35·81 in every 100 townsmen, while they are 38·42 in the same number of villagers. The chief occupation of the rural population, it need hardly be said, is agriculture, for it employs 39·56 per cent of their number; while it is likely that a certain portion of the 7·32 per cent who belong to Order 16, that of indefinite labour, are field hands and agricultural labourers. Weaving and other operations connected with the preparation of textile fabrics and dress employ 2·64 per cent of the village males; but all other trades and callings are dwarfed and thrown into the shade by the vast preponderance of the agricultural interest. The townsfolk are not so overwhelmingly numerous in any one profession, and are more evenly distributed among several. So universal, however, is the pursuit of agricultural operations that even in the urban population they employ the greater proportion of individuals. The indefinite class of labourers stands next with 10·31 per cent, which is not too high an average when the great gangs of general labourers are borne in mind who may be found at work, or in search of it, in the streets and markets of our large towns. The fifth Order, that of domestic servants and attendants, is also largely represented in towns by a percentage of 10·12, while that of the shop-keepers (Order 6) has 6·51 per cent. With the exception of the seventh Order (that of carriers, messengers, and porters) none other exceeds 5 per cent.

No. 46.—Statement showing the Occupations in which the Urban and Rural Population (Males of all Ages) are employed.

Order.	Urban population.	Rural population.	Total.
1. Persons engaged in the general or local government of the country	1·16	·65	·68
2. Persons engaged in the defence of the country...	·28	·02	·03
3. Persons engaged in the learned professions, and in literature, art, and science, with their immediate subordinates	2·19	1·02	1·08
4. Wives	.....	.....	.....
5. Persons engaged in entertaining and performing personal offices for man	10·12	2·28	2·73
6. Persons who buy or sell, keep or lend money, houses, or goods of various kinds	6·51	1·52	1·81
7. Persons engaged in the conveyance of men, animals, goods, and messages	4·74	1·28	1·48
8. Persons possessing or working the land, and engaged in growing grain, fruits, grasses, and other products	10·90	39·56	37·92
9. Persons engaged about animals	1·16	·66	·69
10. Persons engaged in art and mechanic productions	2·34	·46	·57
11. Persons working and dealing in the textile fabrics and dress	5·70	2·64	2·81
12. Persons working and dealing in food and drink	4·05	1·86	1·99
13. Persons working and dealing in animal substances	·26	·11	·11
14. Persons working and dealing in vegetable substances	1·56	·84	·89
15. Persons working and dealing in minerals ...	2·09	1·20	1·29
16. Labourers and others (branch of labour undefined)	10·31	7·32	7·49
17. Persons of rank or property not returned under any office or occupation	·15	·08	·09
18. Persons of no specified occupation	35·81	38·42	38·27
All Occupations ...	100	100	100

409. There remain to be considered the occupations of the people with reference to their religion. The attempt to work out this combination has never before been made in Bengal, and it is believed that it has not yet been tried in any other part of the Indian empire; yet the importance of the information which satisfactory statistics on the subject would provide can hardly be overrated. Before the census of 1872 revealed their true numbers, the population of Bengal was much underestimated, and, especially with regard to the Mahomedans, very erroneous ideas existed as to their numbers and local distribution. The statistics of the present census go further still in the same direction, and will, it is hoped, suggest important facts regarding the employments of

The distribution of occupations among the people of different religions.

the Mahomedan population. Unfortunately, for reasons which have been explained above, it is impossible to advance with any certainty deep into the details of the occupation tables. The following remarks therefore will not go far beyond the Orders and Sub-orders, and will leave to the research of the curious the details of actual occupations which are to be found in Table XXVIII of Appendix C; but it is hoped that the special investigations which are to be made into the whole question of the employments of the people will be carried along the same lines, and that for each occupation its distribution among the people of different creeds and races may be regarded as an important statistic.

410. The three groups into which the religions of the people are divided in respect of their occupations are those of Hindus, Mahomedans, and Others. In the whole population of Bengal the Hindus are in the ratio of 65·36 per cent, and the Mahomedans amount to 31·21 per cent, leaving 3 per cent to be supplied by all the other religions returned in the census schedules. The proportion which these bear to the whole is so small, and the total is composed of elements so heterogeneous, that the occupation statistics of the mass may be passed over with comparatively slight notice, and attention concentrated on the employments of those persons who profess the two great religions of India.

All Religions.

411. The abstract in the margin gives particulars of the occupations of the whole male population 10 years old and upwards, and shows the numbers in every 100 Hindus, Mahomedans, and Others who are engaged in each of the 18 Orders of the authorised classification. The whole population embraced by the abstract is 24,219,220 souls, of whom 16,107,011 are Hindus, 7,383,416 are Mahomedans, and 728,793 belong to other religions. Taking the population of All Religions first, it will be seen that rather more than half, or 53·83 per cent, are employed in the eighth or agricultural Order, 12·02 per cent are unemployed, and 10·15 per cent are in the indefinite Order, viz. persons employed, but in occupations not defined with sufficient accuracy to enable them to be located under any of the authorised heads. The same proportions are very closely maintained by the Hindus. Of their total, however, rather less than one-half, or 49·28 per cent, are engaged in agriculture, a somewhat larger proportion, or 13 per cent, are unemployed (among whom must be counted the many Hindu scholars

Hindus.

No. 47.—Statement showing the Proportion in which the Male Population of Different Religions 10 years old and upwards is distributed among the Orders of Occupation. (From Table No. XXVII.)

ORDER.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.	Others.	All Religions.
1. Persons engaged in the general or local government of the country	·80	·67	·36	·74
2. Persons engaged in the defence of the country ...	·02	·05	·44	·04
3. Persons engaged in the learned professions, and in literature, art, and science, with their immediate subordinates	1·78	·62	·47	1·39
4. Wives	.....	.....	.....	.....
5. Persons engaged in entertaining and performing personal offices for man	5·54	3·84	2·49	4·93
6. Persons who buy or sell, keep or lend money, houses, or goods of various kinds	2·76	1·56	·67	2·33
7. Persons engaged in the conveyance of men, animals, goods, and messages	1·75	2·13	·76	1·84
8. Persons possessing or working the land and engaged in growing grain, fruits, grasses, and other products	49·28	62·81	63·40	53·83
9. Persons engaged about animals	3·46	4·49	5·29	3·83
10. Persons engaged in art and mechanic productions ...	·77	·56	·31	·69
11. Persons working and dealing in the textile fabrics and dress	2·28	3·18	·52	2·50
12. Persons working and dealing in food and drink ...	3·20	1·20	·47	2·51
13. Persons working and dealing in animal substances	·19	·13	·05	·17
14. Persons working and dealing in vegetable substances	1·35	·92	·58	1·19
15. Persons working and dealing in minerals	2·21	·49	·91	1·65
16. Labourers and others (branch of labour undefined) ...	11·40	7·34	11·02	10·15
17. Persons of rank or property not returned under any office or occupation	·12	·06	·01	·10
18. Persons of no specified occupation	13·00	9·87	12·16	12·02
ALL OCCUPATIONS ...	100	100	100	100

above 10 years of age), and 11·40 per cent are general labourers and members of the Indefinite Order. One other Order, that of attendants and domestic servants, has more than 5 per cent of the total; and the prominence of this Order among the Hindus will explain the high place which is taken in respect to the same group by the Divisions of Patna and Orissa, where the Hindus greatly predominate. The Order with which the Hindus have least to do is the second, "Persons engaged in the defence of the country;" and no one who is acquainted with the Hindus of Bengal will be surprised to learn that the soldiers among them amount to only 2 in 10,000 of the employed male population.

Mahomedans.

412. The figures for the employments of the Mahomedan community have still more points of interest; and many of the conclusions which they suggest strongly establish the general accuracy of the census. The most prominent feature of the figures for Mahomedans in the abstract is the high proportion which is held by the agricultural Order: while the husbandmen among the Hindus are only 49·28 per cent, the ratio among the Mahomedans is 62·81 per cent. In the next place there would seem to be a much smaller proportion of them without employ, and their rich men without occupation are comparatively much fewer. So again in the 16th Order, that of general labourers, the common knowledge of the country is supported by the fact that while the Hindu coolies are 11·40 per cent of the Hindu employed males, and the general labourers of other religions (mostly of whom are aboriginal immigrants) are 11·02 per cent of the total, the Mahomedan labourers of the indefinite class amount to only 7·34 per cent. In three other Orders besides those mentioned the Mahomedan employés bear a larger proportion to their whole than the Hindus—these are the seventh, the ninth, and the eleventh; and it is just in these Orders that this predominance might have been predicted. The seventh Order is that containing "Persons engaged in the conveyance of men, animals, goods, and messages," and it is so largely composed among the Mahomedans of the boatmen of the eastern districts that it has a percentage on the whole of 2·13, while the Hindus of the same Order, though it includes the thousands of palki-bearers throughout Bengal, only amount to 1·75 in every 100 employed Hindus. The ninth Order is that of persons who are engaged in breeding and keeping animals; and so many Mahomedans have been returned as cattle-keepers and herdsmen that the absolute figures (291,950) are not much smaller than those for Hindus (385,427) in spite of the great disparity in the totals of the two religions. The eleventh Order contains all those persons who work or deal in textile fabrics or dress. Weaving, especially that of cotton cloths, has been from time immemorial one of the great callings of the Mahomedans in Bengal, and it is therefore not surprising to find that whereas the weavers are only 2·28 in 100 Hindus, the proportion among the Mahomedans is nearly one per cent higher, or 3·18 per cent. Lastly, the figures, so far as they go, supply an answer to the charge which is frequently brought against Government, viz. that the Hindus in Government employ greatly outnumber, both absolutely and comparatively, the Mahomedans in the same position: the percentages in the first Order prove that this is not the case, for whereas out of 10,000 Hindus 80 are in Government employ, the number of officials in the same number of Mahomedans is 67, or only 13 less.

Others.

413. The only points which require notice about the occupations of persons of Other Religions are these. In the second Order, that of defence, the number of the European soldiers garrisoning the country gives them a prominence. They have a comparatively high proportion engaged in the following Orders for special reasons: in the eighth Order the simple cultivation of the aboriginal tribes employs 63·40 per cent of the total, while they have a higher proportion than the Hindus or Mahomedans in the kindred occupation of cattle-keeping; lastly, the gangs of aboriginals who emigrate in search of work as coolies raise their percentage of general labourers to 11·02.

The same subject examined in greater detail.

414. The accuracy of the conclusions which have been stated in the foregoing paragraphs will be more clearly seen, however, if a reference is made to the more detailed statement below. This gives not for only each Order, but for each Sub-order also, the numbers of Hindus, Mahomedans, and Others in every 100 persons who have been classed in it. The percentages are calculated on the whole male population of each religion 10 years old and upwards.

No. 48.—Statement showing the Proportions in the Male Population of each Religion 10 years old and upwards employed in each Order and Sub-order.

ORDER AND SUB-ORDER.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.	Others.
ORDER 1.—*Persons engaged in the general or local government of the country*	*70·97*	*27·56*	*1·45*
SUB-ORDER 1.—Officers of National Government	70·66	20·78	4·55
,, 2.—Officers of Municipal, Local, and Village Government	71·00	27·86	1·12
,, 3.—Officers of Independent Governments and Native States	100·00	.....	.....
ORDER 2.—*Persons engaged in the defence of the country*	*36·00*	*35·92*	*28·06*
SUB-ORDER 1.—Army	36·04	35·88	28·06
,, 2.—Navy	.....	75·00	25·00
ORDER 3.—*Persons engaged in the learned professions, or in literature, art, and science (with their immediate subordinates)*	*85·25*	*13·71*	*1·03*
SUB-ORDER 1.—Clergymen, Ministers, Priests, Church and Temple Officers	94·31	5·25	·42
,, 2.—Lawyers, Law-stationers, and Law-stamp dealers	76·52	21·48	1·98
,, 3.—Physicians, Surgeons, and Druggists	75·75	22·77	1·46
,, 4.—Authors and Literary persons	87·03	11·03	1·9
,, 5.—Artists	42·64	55·06	2·28
,, 6.—Musicians	76·53	21·79	1·67
,, 7.—Actors	65·46	33·93	·59
,, 8.—Teachers	79·11	18·96	1·91
,, 9.—Scientific persons	87·37	9·45	3·16
ORDER 4.—*Wives*	.....	.....	.....
ORDER 5.—*Persons engaged in entertaining and performing personal offices for man*	*74·73*	*23·73*	*1·52*
SUB-ORDER 1.—Engaged in boarding and lodging	59·04	35·23	5·71
,, 2.—Attendants, domestic servants, &c.	74·74	23·73	1·52
ORDER 6.—*Persons who buy or sell, keep or lend money, houses, or goods of various kinds*	*78·69*	*20·43*	*·86*
SUB-ORDER 1.—Mercantile men	70·80	27·50	1·68
,, Other general dealers	81·99	17·48	·51
ORDER 7.—*Persons engaged in the conveyance of men, animals, goods and messages*	*63·43*	*35·31*	*1·25*
SUB-ORDER 1.—Carriers on railways	47·16	38·75	14·08
,, 2.—Carriers on roads	75·41	24·01	·56
,, 3.—Carriers on canals and rivers	57·62	41·41	·95
,, 4.—Carriers on seas and rivers	57·48	34·83	7·67
,, 5.—Engaged in storage	79·76	19·74	·48
,, 6.—Messengers and porters	56·52	43·04	·43
ORDER 8.—*Persons possessing or working the land, and engaged in growing grain, fruits, grasses, and other products*	*60·88*	*35·56*	*3·54*
SUB-ORDER 1.—Agriculturists	60·85	35·60	3·54
,, 2.—Arboriculturists	63·89	29·80	6·29
,, 3.—Horticulturists	83·37	15·04	1·58
ORDER 9.—*Persons engaged about animals*	*60·08*	*35·75*	*4·15*
SUB-ORDER 1.—Persons engaged about animals	60·08	35·75	4·15
ORDER 10.—*Persons engaged in art and mechanic productions*	*73·91*	*24·74*	*1·34*
SUB-ORDER 1.—Workers in books	48·83	47·20	3·95
,, 2.—Workers in musical instruments	90·09	8·91	·99
,, 3.—Workers in prints and pictures	38·87	60·85	·26
,, 4.—Workers in carving and figures	89·02	9·02	1·94
,, 5.—Workers in tackle for sports and games	90·83	9·13	·03
,, 6.—Workers in designs, medals, and dies	20·67	79·32	.....
,, 7.—Workers in watches and philosophical instruments	86·65	12·10	1·22
,, 8.—Workers in surgical instruments	.....	.....	.....
,, 9.—Workers in arms	75·22	22·76	2·00
,, 10.—Workers in machines and tools	64·38	31·45	4·15
,, 11.—Workers in carriages	70·45	28·49	1·05

Order and Sub-order.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.	Others.
Sub-order 12.—Workers in harness	81·02	18·18	·79
,, 13.—Workers in ships	75·39	24·60	·59
,, 14.—Workers in houses and buildings	74·73	24·14	1·12
,, 15.—Workers in furniture	83·21	15·58	1·19
,, 16.—Workers in chemicals	39·41	58·99	1·58
ORDER 11.—*Persons working and dealing in the textile fabrics and in dress*	*60·67*	*38·69*	*·63*
Sub-order 1.—Workers in wool and worsted	85·57	14·16	·25
,, 2.—Workers in silk	59·76	39·55	·68
,, 3.—Workers in cotton and flax	60·60	38·78	·61
,, 4.—Workers in mixed materials	76·83	23·04	·12
,, 5.—Workers in dress	56·94	42·61	·43
,, 6.—Workers in hemp and other fibrous materials	69·28	28·65	2·06
ORDER 12.—*Persons working and dealing in food and drinks*	*84·81*	*14 61*	*·56*
Sub-order 1.—Workers in animal food	89·68	10·05	·26
,, 2.—Workers in vegetable food	77·56	21·59	·84
,, 3.—Workers in drinks and stimulants	84·71	14·46	·82
ORDER 13.—*Persons working and dealing in animal substances* ...	*75·22*	*23·85*	*·92*
Sub-order 1.—Workers in grease, gut, bones, horns, ivory, whale-bone, and lac	65·68	32·89	1·42
,, 2.—Workers in skins, feathers, and quills	81·92	17·48	·59
,, 3.—Workers in hair	29·38	70·61	.....
ORDER 14.—*Persons working and dealing in vegetable substances* ...	*74·94*	*23·58*	*1·46*
Sub-order 1.—Workers in gum and resin	75·86	23·76	·37
,, 2.—Workers in wood	69·24	28·04	2·71
,, 3.—Workers in bark and pith	86·65	12·58	·75
,, 4.—Workers in bamboos, cane, rush, straw, and leaves	76·57	21·05	2·36
,, 5.—Workers in paper	40·71	58·33	·94
ORDER 15.—*Persons working and dealing in minerals*	*89·27*	*9·05*	*1 67*
Sub-order 1.—Miners	90·58	·69	8·71
,, 2.—Workers in coal	70·28	22·21	7·50
,, 3.—Workers in stone and clay	73·94	23·16	2·89
,, 4.—Workers in earthenware	95·98	3·75	·2
,, 5.—Workers in glass	43·65	55·68	·65
,, 6.—Workers in salt	93·96	5·52	·51
,, 7.—Workers in water	25·80	73·53	·65
,, 8.—Workers in gold, silver, and precious stones	89·23	10·57	·20
,, 9.—Workers in copper	89·05	8·51	2·43
,, 10.—Workers in tin and quicksilver	73·89	26·06	·04
,, 11.—Workers in zinc	62·50	27·27	10·23
,, 12.—Workers in lead and antimony	62·50	25·00	12·50
,, 13.—Workers in brass and other mixed metals	88·15	9·94	1·90
,, 14.—Workers in steel and iron	89·46	6·06	4·46
ORDER 16.—*Labourers and others (branch of labour undefined)*	*74·69*	*22 03*	*3·26*
Sub-order 1.—General labourers	74·91	21·85	3·22
,, 2.—Other persons of indefinite occupations	69·73	26·15	4·10
ORDER 17.—*Persons of rank or property not returned under any office or occupation*	*81·99*	*17·56*	*·44*
Sub-order 1.—Persons of rank or property not returned under any office or occupation	81·99	17·56	44
ORDER 18.—*Persons of no specified occupation*	*71·90*	*25 04*	*3·04*
Sub-order 1.—Vagrants and gipsies	65·16	34 07	·75
,, 2.—Persons of no specified occupation	72·04	24·05	3·29
Total All Occupations ...	66 30	30·48	300

415. The Hindus so greatly outnumber the Mahomedans, and both religions so completely overshadow the class of Others, that a simple comparison of the proportion of the whole claimed by each religion would, in all but some nine or ten instances, result in the predominance of the ratio of Hindus. Some means, therefore, must be devised for placing them on a common level; and this can be found by taking as the standard their comparative ratios of total employment in all occupations. These ratios, it will be seen, are for Hindus 66·30 per cent, for Mahomedans 30·48 per cent, and for All Others 3·00 per cent; and whenever in any employment the ratio of persons of a given religion is above this standard, by so much have they the more largely usurped it. Applying this principle to the figures for Orders, it will be observed that those in which the Mahomedans are most largely employed in proportion to their numbers are the 2nd (Persons engaged in the defence of the country), the 7th (Persons engaged in the conveyance of men, animals, goods, and messages), the 8th (Persons possessing or working the land, and engaged in growing grain, fruits, grasses, and other products), the 9th (Persons engaged about animals), and the 11th (Persons working and dealing in the textile fabrics and dress). Their excessive employment in these Orders has already been shown in the preceding paragraph, and needs no further demonstration. It will be more fully explained when the Sub-orders are examined.

Mahomedans.

416. The number of Mahomedans employed is above the average in twenty-four of the eighty-two Sub-orders, and these are arranged in the margin according to their proportionate excess of Mahomedans. In the 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, and 19th Sub-orders the total numbers employed are so insignificant that they require no notice; but in all the rest the number of Mahomedans employed is considerable, and indicates the popularity of the calling among them. The 73·53 per cent of the Mahomedans in the Workers in water comprise 2,025 *bheesties* who are not private servants. The Workers in chemicals embrace the large class of Mahomedan dyers. The now decayed trade of paper-making is largely in the hands of Mussulmans, who have also a great hold of that of glass-blowing and the sale of glass articles. Their virtual monopoly of *duftries'* work gives them their pre-eminence in the Sub-order of Workers in paper, and the large number of Mahomedan orderlies is not overstated by the proportion of 43·04 per cent of all Messengers and porters. The ubiquity of the Mahomedan tailor is hardly represented by the ratio of 42·61 per cent in the Sub-order of Workers in dress, because the enormous preponderance of Hindu shoemakers overshadows it; but the presence of 43,629 Mahomedan tailors in the returns as against 9,345 of other religions clearly shows how greatly the Mussulmans affect this calling. The innumerable boatmen of the eastern districts, and the numerous seamen of the north-east corner of the Bay of Bengal, explain the predominance of Mahomedans as Carriers by water. In the trade of Weaving and working in silk and cotton the Mahomedans have always been largely employed, especially in the former; the Mahomedan silk-weavers being nearly twice as numerous as the Hindus. The qualities which recommend the Mussulman for employment as orderly have also marked him out as a useful railway servant. Agriculture, it has already been pointed out, is the chief means of livelihood on which a large majority of them depend, and it absorbs a greater share of their employed males than is the case with the Hindus. Their pre-eminence in the last four Sub-orders in the list is not very marked, and it was certainly somewhat unexpected in the Sub-order of Vagrants and gipsies. In the Sub-order of Workers in grease, gut, bones, &c., their position is due to the inclusion of 4,567 Workers in lac, and in that of Workers in machines to the occurrence of 1,181 fitters and mechanical artisans.

1.	Workers in designs, medals, and dies.	79·32	
2.	The navy	75·00	
3.	Workers in water	73·53	
4.	„ „ hair	70·61	
5.	„ „ prints and pictures.	60·85	
6.	Workers in chemicals ...	58·99	
7.	„ „ paper	58·33	
8.	„ „ glass	55·68	
9.	Picture-painters	55·06	
10.	Workers in books	47·20	
11.	Messengers and porters ...	43·04	
12.	Workers in dress	42·61	
13.	Carriers in canals and rivers	41·41	
14.	Workers in silk	39·55	
15.	„ „ cotton	38·78	
16.	Carriers on railways ...	38·75	
17.	The army	35·88	
18.	Agriculturists	35·60	
19.	Persons engaged in board and lodging.	35·23	
20.	Carriers on seas and rivers	34·83	
21.	Vagrants and gipsies ...	34·07	
22.	Actors	33·93	
23.	Workers in grease, gut, &c.	32·89	
24.	„ „ machines ...	31·45	

417. Abandoning the question of proportions, and looking into the list of individual occupations in Table No. XXVIII, it will be found that the

Mahomedans are absolutely most numerous in the employments noted below. The prevalence of these occupations has already been noted in the foregoing paragraphs, and they require no further comment. The figures represent the males above 10 years of age:—

Cultivator	4,109,342	Labourer	101,213
Unemployed, or no occupation stated	729,407	Agricultural labourer	100,022
General labourer	515,845	Vagrant, beggar	86,170
Cattle-herd	291,950	Service (not further specified) ...	83,719
Tenure-holder	149,688	Boatman	75,593
Cultivator, with other occupations ...	143,301	Shop-keeper	59,305
"Other" servants	142,834	Tailor	43,629
Cotton cloth weaver	141,760	Village official	37,965

418. The Hindus exceed their general average on the whole employed of males 10 years and upwards in the case of eleven Orders, which are detailed below, together with the percentage appertaining to each:—

Order 15.—Persons working and dealing in minerals	89·27	Order 13.—Persons working and dealing in animal substances	75·22
„ 3.—Persons engaged in the learned professions, or in literature, art, and science (with their immediate subordinates) ...	85·25	„ 14.—Persons working and dealing in vegetable substances	74·94
„ 12.—Persons working and dealing in food and drink ...	84·81	„ 5.—Persons engaged in entertaining and performing domestic offices for man	74·73
„ 17.—Persons of rank or property not returned under any office or occupation ...	81·99	„ 16.—Labourers and others, branch of labour undefined ...	74·69
„ 6.—Persons who buy or sell, keep or lend money, houses, or goods of various kinds ...	78·69	„ 10.—Persons engaged in art and mechanic productions ...	73·91
		„ 1.—Persons engaged in the general and local government of the country ...	70·97

Their position in Order 15 is due to their having exclusive possession of the great trade of making and selling pottery and earthenware vessels, to the number of miners who are Hindus, and to the great class of professional earthwork-labourers who are everywhere employed to make and mend roads, canals, and tanks. In Order 3 they have a large predominance in all the Sub-orders but those of picture-painters and actors, especially among the ministers of religion, of whom 94·31 per cent are Hindus. Their high proportion in Order 12 is at first sight rather surprising when it is remembered that Hindus are almost completely vegetarians and that the Mahomedans are the butchers and the flesh-eaters of the country; but the paradox disappears when the figures for Sub-orders are examined, and it is seen that they contain the great classes of milk-sellers and fishermen—two occupations which are essentially those of Hindus. The 17th Order is a very small one numerically, and speaks for itself. In the 6th Order the position of the Hindus is due to the money-lenders and the general dealers and petty shop-keepers; in the 13th it is caused by the large numbers of dealers in hides; in the 14th it is more than accounted for by more than 100,000 workers in oil, engaged both in pressing and selling it, and by the numerous basket-makers, mat-weavers, thatchers, and others who make a living out of the bamboo and its congeners. The 5th Order includes all the various classes of Hindu servants, headed by the barbers (141,347) and the washermen (94,787). In the 16th Order the legions of Hindu coolies spread all over the face of the country fully account for the large proportion of Hindus; the 10th is not a very large Order, but it includes the carpenters, who are nearly all Hindus, as well as the bricklayers and the boat-builders, who have very few Mahomedans among them. Lastly, the 1st Order shows a great excess of Hindus in the menial ranks of public service and in the class of village officials.

Hindus.

419. Hindus are proportionately in excess in fifty-one Sub-orders, which it would be too tedious to recapitulate, and which will be found set forth in the statement on page 180. They are most largely represented in the Sub-orders of Ministers of religion (94·31 per cent), Workers in musical instruments (90·09 per cent), Workers in tackle for sports and games (90·83 per cent.), Miners (90·58 per cent) Workers in earthenware (95·98 per cent), and Workers in salt (93·96 per cent). With regard to individual occupations, several of those in which the Hindus are comparatively more numerous have already been mentioned; but a

fuller list is given below, including all those in which they have more than 50,000 employed among the males 10 years old and upwards:—

Cultivator	6,740,554	Barber	141,347
Unemployed (or no occupation stated)	2,094,226	Fisherman	124,961
General labourer	1,767,702	Potter	111,242
Cultivator, with other occupations ...	682,745	Boatman	107,067
"Other" servants	386,351	Village official	101,786
Cattle-herd	385,427	Washerman	94,787
Shop-keeper...	302,268	Oil-seller	78,138
Cotton-weaver	217,926	Milk-seller	76,576
Agricultural labourer	213,115	Goldsmith	75,674
Landowner	181,253	Blacksmith	70,020
Fishmonger	176,448	Tenureholder	65,577
Service (not otherwise defined) ...	171,546	Grain-dealer	60,904
Vagrant, beggar	167,084	Carpenter	60,661
Priest	154,155	Shoemaker	53,505

Others.

420. The whole population included in these tables as Others being less than three-fourths of a million (728,793), they are too insignificant a body, when compared with the great masses of Hindus and Mahomedans, to have much hold on many professions or occupations. In the 2nd Order, however, that of Persons engaged in the defence of the country, the European garrisons in Bengal bring up the percentage of Others to 28·06, and they are 25·00 per cent in the small Sub-order of the Navy: European drivers and other officials bring up the percentage of Others to 14·08 in the Sub-order of Carriers by railway, and European sailors bring it to 7·67 per cent in that of Carriers by sea. Among Miners and Workers in coal the percentage of Others is 8·71 and 7·50 respectively, chiefly owing to the Sonthals and Kols employed in the industry. So small, however, is their total that their presence or absence has little effect on the statistics of any trade, and the only occupations in which more than 10,000 persons of Other Religions are employed are the following:—

Cultivator	415,046	Cattle-herd	34,062
Unemployed, or no occupation stated	88,648	Cultivator, with other occupations...	26,550
General labourer	76,220	Agricultural labourer	15,405

The occupations of females.

421. No statistics in the whole range of those compiled after the late census are so wanting in definiteness as those for the occupations of females, and at the same time upon none others have so much time and trouble been expended. This state of things arises from two causes: in the first place it was inevitable from the first that their occupations would be unsatisfactorily stated. The directions of the Census Commissioner, which were in due course incorporated in the "Instructions to Enumerators," were that women were not to be entered as employed unless they were engaged on special work of a distinctly definite character. Married women and girls employed on household work were to be shown as unemployed. The effect of these instructions was to break down at once and for ever all distinctions between those who were actually unemployed and those who in India, as elsewhere in all countries and at all times, have as little claim as any one to be called idle, viz. the housewives, the mothers of families, and the busy consorts of men of the middle and lower classes. In the next place the initial defects of the instructions were complicated and enlarged by the blunders of the enumerators, who seem to have been unable to grasp the principle of these orders. Their first and most obvious error was in many instances to disregard the instructions altogether, and to enter the wives, and sometimes the daughters, as of the same occupation as the husband and father: hence such ridiculous entries were found as female barristers, female cab-drivers, and female soldiers of the native army. In the next place some of them exceeded the instructions they had received, and entered as unemployed large numbers of female servants, because they were only engaged in household work. Other errors were also made, but these were the principal ones. They extended so far, however, that while they have made it quite impossible to say what proportion of the unemployed females were really without employment, and how many were engaged in household work, they necessitated the minutest examination of the entries of the employed to prevent the publication of ridiculous statistics. All occupations in which it was doubtful whether women could be engaged were made the subject of special enquiry, often

involving a reference to the original papers, or the tables first compiled from them, and the information was sifted again and again, resulting in many entries being rejected and entered in the Unemployed Class. Taking the figures as they stand, however, they are discussed in the succeeding paragraphs; but it is obvious that since there is no distinction between those really and those technically idle, nothing can be gained by examining the question of age, and accordingly the remarks which follow treat of the occupations of females of all ages.

422. Out of the whole female population concerning whose occupations information was asked for, as many as 28,621,785, or 83·00 per cent, have been returned as not employed. The remainder, 6,200,255, are distributed in Table No. XXVIII into 288 separate occupations; and so small is the number in each that in 42 cases alone, which are detailed below, does the total rise above 10,000 :—

Cultivator	1,675,843	Cattle-herd	35,360
*General labourer	1,371,577	Basket-maker	33,075
Grain-huskers	473,854	Green-grocer	32.891
Thread-spinners	354,572	Barber	32.483
Vagrant, beggar	218,644	Priestess	23.446
Cultivator, with other occupations	196,466	Jute-worker	21,931
Maid-servant	170,608	Wood-seller	21,129
Shop-keeper (not further defined)...	155,589	Midwife	20.069
Agricultural labourer	148,557	Cook	19,216
Fishmonger	119,083	Grain-grinder	18,280
Cotton cloth weaver	100,211	Tailor	18.163
Stick-seller	73,934	Grass mat-maker	17,585
Washerman	64,670	Service (not further defined) ...	16.112
Fisherman	63,481	"Other" servants	15.164
Oil-seller	62,008	Pân-seller	14.846
Potter	54,359	Confectioner	14.801
Others (Sub-order XVIII) ...	51,855	Tenureholder	14,509
Landowner	49,987	Bamboo-worker	13,906
Cowdung fuel dealer	48,904	Liquor-seller	13.276
Grain-parcher	45,510	Oil-maker	11,849
Grain-seller	41,524	Water-carrier	11,419

423. An analysis of these occupations will show that while some of them are employments which are the special province of women, and others are those in which they share the work with the men of their families, there are many in which it is hard to say how far the women are really the bread-winners themselves and how far they are merely the wives of bread-winners. In cultivation and in shop-keeping, for instance, it is impossible to estimate how many of those returned as employed really take a part in field work or the work of the shop, and how many are only the wives of cultivators and shop-keepers. The general labourers, on the other hand, are in all probability all really employed, as are the women, in service of all classes. In several of these occupations the wife notoriously helps her husband: thus the fish caught by the males of the family are sold by its women; so with the milk-sellers and the green-grocers, who sell in the streets the produce of the cow byre and the garden. The women may any day be seen working with the men at basket-making, bamboo-work, cloth-weaving, and mat-making, which are all employments of the lower castes. The special occupations of the women, it is satisfactory to find, are all fairly, though not perhaps adequately, represented. These are the husking, grinding, and parching of grain, the spinning of thread, the collection and sale of cowdung for fuel, and the profession of midwifery.

424. Tables Nos. XXX and XXXI show respectively the previous occupations of prisoners and the employments of those persons who returned themselves as following any occupation in combination with agriculture. The preparation of Table No. XXX was directed by the Government of Bengal, and that of Table No. XXXI by the Census Commissioner. Neither of them need be discussed at any length,—the former because its statistics are not of general interest, and the latter because its figures are so much below the truth that they will not repay analysis. Tables Nos. XXX and XXXI.

The occupation statistics of 1872 and 1881.

425. The principle of classification and the method of collecting information as to occupations differed so much in 1872 and in 1881 that it is quite useless to attempt any detailed comparison of the results of the two censuses. The figures for each class are compared in the margin for what they are worth. Taken literally, they would seem to show that among the women there has been an increase of 10 per cent in the number of workers and an advance of 1½ per cent in the number of employed men: that among the women this increase has been about equal in the direction of agriculture and of industrial pursuits, while among the men it has taken the form of increased application to agriculture, with a decrease in all the other classes, except that of industry and manufactures. The figures are, however, given more to show a general coincidence than as affording grounds for serious conclusions.

No. 49.—*Statement showing the proportion to the whole population of each sex of the persons returned as occupied in each class in* 1872 *and* 1881.

Class.	Males.		Females.	
	1872.	1881.	1872.	1881.
Class I.—Professional class ...	1·89	*1·80*	·06	*·16*
Class II.—Domestic class ...	3·35	*2·73*	·43	*·70*
Class III.—Commercial class ...	3·68	*3·29*	·13	*·56*
Class IV.—Agricultural class ...	36·68	*38·62*	.65	*5·62*
Class V.—Manufacturing and industrial class ...	7·03	*7·68*	·97	*5·45*
Class VI.—Indefinite and non-productive class ...	47·34	*45·86*	97·72	*87·49*
All Occupations ...	*100*	*100*	*100*	*100*

The occupations in Bengal and in the United Kingdom compared.

426. This brief chapter on the occupations of the people of Bengal may well be concluded with a few remarks on the following table, which compares the occupations of the people of these provinces with that of the population of the several parts of the United Kingdom. In order to reduce the various tables to the same level, the fourth Order, that of wives, has been omitted from the European tables, and the figures which belonged to it have been added to those for unemployed women in Order eighteen; in other respects the tables are unaltered, and the comparative predominance of the different orders in 100 of the population shows clearly how different are the conditions of employment in this country and in the British Isles:—

No. 50.—*Statement comparing the Distribution of the Population of All Ages amongst the various Orders of Occupations in Bengal and elsewhere.*

Order.	Males.				Females.			
	England and Wales.	Ireland.	Scotland.	Bengal.	England and Wales.	Ireland.	Scotland.	Bengal.
Order 1.—Persons engaged in the general or local government of the country	·90	·94	·67	*·68*	·05	·02	·04	.....
,, 2.—Persons engaged in the defence of the country	1·23	1·38	·51	*·03*	.....	.....	.....	.....
,, 3.—Persons engaged in the learned professions, or in literature, art, and science (with their immediate subordinates)... ...	2·25	2·03	1·66	*1·08*	1·64	1·33	·48	*·14*
,, 4.—Persons engaged in entertaining and performing personal offices for man	2·21	1·30	1·37	*2·73*	11·01	12·37	7·06	*·70*
,, 5.—Persons who buy or sell, keep or lend money, houses, or goods of various kinds	2·19	1·34	2·14	*1·81*	·38	·58	·48	*·55*
6.—Persons engaged in the conveyance of men, animals, goods, and messages	4·66	2·00	4·34	*1·48*	·10	·03	·20	.

No. 50.—Statement comparing the Distribution of the Population of All Ages amongst the various Orders of Occupations in Bengal and elsewhere—continued.

Order.	Males.				Females.			
	England and Wales.	Ireland.	Scotland.	Bengal.	England and Wales.	Ireland.	Scotland.	Bengal.
Order 7.—Persons possessing or working the land and engaged in growing grain, fruits, grasses, animals, and other products ...	12·41	33·09	11·63	*37·92*	1·59	6·12	2·92	*5·39*
,, 8.—Persons engaged about animals	13·29	·68	2·15	*·69*	1·60	.....	·06	*·22*
,, 9.—Persons engaged in art and mechanic productions, in which matters of various kinds are employed in combination ...	9·82	2·81	9·50	*·57*	·49	·11	·39	*·05*
,, 10.—Persons working and dealing in the textile fabrics and in dress	7·70	4·25	7·99	*2·81*	11·14	8·35	11·71	*1·92*
,, 11.—Persons working and dealing in food and drinks	3·60	1·59	3·16	*1·99*	2·40	·39	·70	*2·51*
,, 12.—Persons working and dealing in animal substances	·43	·11	·32	*·11*	·07	·02	·03	*·10*
,, 13.—Persons working and dealing in vegetable substances	1·24	·51	1·30	*·89*	·23	·06	·38	*·57*
,, 14.—Persons working and dealing in minerals	9·88	1·64	10·38	*1·29*	·54	·03	·16	*·28*
,, 15.—Labourers and others—branch of labour undefined	6·81	9·19	3·55	*7·49*	·41	1·81	·38	*4·47*
,, 16.—Persons of rank or property not returned under office or occupation	·23	·14	·76	*·09*	1·23	·42	1·45	*·01*
,, 17.—Persons of no specified occupation	33·49	36·91	38·49	*28·27*	69·58	68·28	72·66	*83·00*

Looking first at the male occupations, the first and most obvious criticism is that the statistics of Bengal have much more in common with those of Ireland than of either England or Scotland: the western country is mainly agricultural and pastoral, with a small manufacturing and a smaller commercial Class. In England and Wales and in Scotland the unemployed are numerically the largest Class (there are five more of them in every 100 in Scotland than there are in England), and the Agricultural Order stands second, with so few representatives as 12·41 per cent and 11·63 per cent respectively. In Bengal, and in Ireland also, the unemployed are, it is true, actually the most numerous, but they barely exceed the proportion of the agriculturists, the figures being 38·27 per cent and 37·92 per cent in Bengal, and 36·91 per cent and 33·09 per cent in Ireland. Bengal has further the first place in the Domestic Class, but is a good deal below the mean in respect of other Classes.

427. With regard to the females, it is found, as was to be expected, that the number of employed females, even after adding to the unemployed class all the employed wives, is proportionately much greater in Europe than in Bengal. In Bengal they are 83 per cent of the female population of all ages, in Scotland 72·66 per cent, in England and Wales 69·58 per cent, and in Ireland 68·28 per cent. The similarity which was detected between the occupations of males in Bengal and Ireland marks also to a slight extent the employment of the females in both countries. Bengal has 5·59 per cent of its women employed in agriculture, and 6·12 per cent is the proportion in Ireland. Here, however, similarity ceases: 10 per cent of the women in the United Kingdom are employed as servants and attendants of various kinds; in Bengal not one in 100 is so employed. The great numbers of mill and factory workers in the United Kingdom, especially England and Scotland, gives this class a proportion of about 10 per cent, whereas in Bengal the proportion is less than two per cent. Females working in food and drinks are a good deal more numerous in Bengal than elsewhere; and lastly, while the general labourers in Bengal are 4·47 per cent among the women, the percentages in England, Ireland, and Scotland are ·41, 1·81, and ·38.

CHAPTER XII.

STATISTICS OF INSTRUCTION AND ILLITERACY.

(Table No. XIII, pages 423 to 440, Appendix B.)

Introductory.

428. In this table are exhibited for all districts, except those of Hill Tipperah and the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and part of the Tributary States of Chota Nagpore, details showing in three categories the educational attainments of the whole population in Bengal, further classified also by religion. The religions for which separate figures are shown are those which have already been recognised as the most important in Table No. III and other tables in which the religion of the population is a statistic.

429. The three grades of education into which the population are divided correspond with the three headings in the schedule under which the enumerators were directed to classify every person on the night of the census. They are—

1. Under instruction.
2. Not under instruction but able to read and write.
3. Not under instruction and not able to read and write.

In other, words these definitions were devised to separate distinctly the learners, the literate, and the illiterate. In the census compilations of other countries, where statistical enquiry is less novel, less repugnant to the people, and conducted through a better agency, and where statistics are more easily compiled, information of a much more detailed character can be successfully sought. In Ireland at the census of 1871 persons were thrown into separate groups according as they could read only, or read and write; elsewhere, the *kind* of instruction has been brought into consideration, and the learners have been shown as receiving primary, secondary, or university education. In Bengal such details have never been sought. At the census of 1872, though the population of other parts of India was classified according to their ability to read and write, it was thought better not to make any attempt of the kind in Bengal, except in the case of a few municipal towns, so that the present is the first occasion on which any effort has really been made to learn how far the ability to read and write is general, and what proportion of the children are at school.

Education not shown in combination with age.

430. From the original schedules themselves it would have been possible to work out the educational status of the people in combination with age; but this element was purposely omitted for several reasons. In the first place it was felt that the complicated character of a form showing in combination three sets of facts, viz. education, religion, and age, would puzzle the compiling staff, engender error, and greatly delay the completion of the compilation; secondly, it was recognised that the information as to age being only approximately correct, any attempt to work it out in detail in combination with education would only result in aggravating error; while, lastly, it was believed that an estimate framed on good grounds of the figures for the school-going age would more nearly approach the total on which the statistics for learners should be calculated than sets of tables worked out by actual compilation from the schedules themselves. Accordingly, besides information as to sex which is common to all the tables, the only other statistic shown with education is religion.

Possibility of mistake.

431. Of the three classes into which persons were to be divided in the column headed "Education" in the schedule, there could be no mistake about two. Whether a man can, or cannot, read and write is a broad fact, which only admits of a categorical answer; and it is believed that the statistics of these two classes are almost exactly accurate: the few persons about whom no information was given were entered as illiterate. In respect of the first class, however, a small percentage of error may have occurred. The wording of the English schedule, from which all those in the different vernaculars were translated, was simply "under instruction." In the Bengali and Uriya schedules the idiom of the language permitted this expression to be exactly translated, and the information they contain is probably quite correct. In the Hindustani schedules, printed in the Nagri, Persian, and Kaithi characters, the expression used to convey the meaning of the English

was one which, while in ordinary parlance it means "a learner," may be construed literally to mean "one who is learning to read and write." In so far, then, as this contracted meaning was accepted instead of the wider one which the words were intended to convey, it may be feared that some school children have been shown under the second class, in spite of the heading "Not under instruction," because, although still under instruction, they could read and write, and were no longer learning to do so. It is not supposed that the number thus wrongly entered is large; but the possibility of error has been stated because it will be referred to below as a solution of discrepancies between the figures for different districts, and between those of the census tables and of the Educational Department.

Degrees of education in each sex.

432. The abstract table in the margin gives the number of persons in each of the three prescribed grades of educational attainments, and the proportion to each other which they bear in 100 of all classes. The calculation is made on the whole population about whom information is available, *i.e.* 69,270,454, and the table shows that out of this number of both sexes only 15 in 1,000 were under instruction, and nearly twice that number, viz. 29 in 1,000, were able to read and write, thus leaving 955 persons in 1,000 who could neither read nor write and who were not learning to do so. Of course this number includes all the children below the school-going age; but even deducting this large number, the results are very discouraging. Dissecting these figures, and considering those for each sex separately, it will be noticed that if female education were not less backward than that of the males, the general average would be much more favourable. Taking the whole province together, out of every 1,000 males of all ages 912 are illiterate as against 997 in the same number of females; to every girl who is learning there are 29 boy pupils; and to every woman who can read and write there are 34 men equally proficient. It has already been stated that it is the backwardness of female education which drags down the average of the two sexes; and a reference to the statistics of European countries will show that, although the illiteracy of females is greater than that of males, the gulf which separates them has nowhere anything like the dimensions which Indian figures show.

No. 51.—General statement showing the Educational Attainments of the People of Bengal.

SEX.	NUMBERS.				PROPORTION PER CENT.			
		NOT UNDER INSTRUCTION.				NOT UNDER INSTRUCTION.		
	Under instruction.	Able to read and write.	Unable to read and write.	Total.	Under instruction.	Able to read and write.	Unable to read and write.	Total.
Males ...	1,009,999	1,991,583	31,480,186	34,481,768	2·92	5·77	91·29	100
Females ...	35,760	61,449	34,691,477	34,788,686	·10	·17	99·72	100
Both sexes	***1,045,759***	***2,053,032***	***66,171,663***	***69,270,454***	***1·50***	***2·96***	***95·52***	***100***

Pupils in Bengal and elsewhere.

433. In the report on the Bombay census of 1881 a table is given which is borrowed from a statement prepared in 1873 for the report on the Vienna Exhibition. The figures have been reproduced in the abstract in the margin, with the addition of those for the largest provinces of the Indian empire. The figures for European countries refer only to primary education: no statistics are at present available enabling such a distinction to be made for the Indian figures, which are those for persons under instruction, of whatever grade; but the propriety of using them may be

No. 52.—Statement showing the Percentage of Primary Scholars on the Whole Population in Different Countries.

COUNTRY.	Percentage.	COUNTRY.	Percentage.
United States	16·0	Hungary	7·5
Saxony	17·5	Italy	6·5
Baden	10·0	Greece	5·5
Wurtemberg	15·5	Portugal	2·5
Switzerland	15·5	Servia	2·0
Denmark	15·0	Mexico	2·0
German empire	15·0	Russia	2·0
Prussia	15·0	MADRAS...	1·7
Sweden	13·7	BOMBAY	1·5
Bavaria	13·0	BENGAL...	1·5
Holland	13·0	Brazil	1·2
France	13·0	Turkish empire	1·0
Norway	12·5	PUNJAB	·7
GREAT BRITAIN	12·0	NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH.	·6
Belgium	11·9	CENTRAL PROVINCES	·6
Austria	9·0	Egypt	·3
Spain	9·0		
IRELAND	8·0		

accepted if it is remembered that, as already explained, an appreciable proportion of those under instruction have been shown as instructed, so that the loss in this direction will probably counteract the gain of those whose instruction has passed beyond the primary stage. The figures are for both sexes, so that the Indian percentages, which would be sufficiently low for males alone, are disproportionately reduced, and are below those of all the nations of Europe which have any claim to be called civilised.

Illiteracy in Bengal and elsewhere.

434. With regard to illiteracy, Bengal compares unfavourably with other provinces of India, for the figures in the margin will show that it stands only fourth on the list. The position of the Central Provinces is unexpected, and possibly the Census Report, when published, may throw some light on the question. So vast is the proportion of illiterates in India that it is difficult to institute a comparison between them and those of any other country for which census figures are available. This difficulty, moreover, is aggravated by the very various systems adopted by different nations for distributing their statistics of instruction. In France the question of obtaining statistics of elementary instruction was raised for the first time so lately as 1866, so that the statistics of 1876 are not put forward with complete confidence. It appears, however, that out of the whole population more than *six* years old the illiterates are only 30·8 per cent; in Bengal the proportion of illiterates of both sexes *five* years old and upwards is 94·94 per cent, or more than thrice as great. In the United States of America the inferior limit of observation, instead of being 5 or 6 years, is 10 years; and the result of the census of 1880 shows that those who were unable to read amounted to 13·4 per cent, while those who were unable to write were 17 per cent, of the population 10 years of age and upwards.

No. 53.—Statement showing the Percentage of Illiterates on the Whole Population in the Larger Provinces of India.

Province.	Percentages.		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
Central Provinces	81·09	85·15	83·10
Madras	86·66	99·15	92·97
Bombay	88·88	99·35	93·94
Bengal	***91·29***	***99·72***	***95·52***
Punjab	93·90	99·84	96·02
North-Western Provinces and Oudh	94·21	99·84	96·92

Local and religious distribution education.

435. The true significance of statistics of instruction, however, cannot be detected till they are examined in relation with age. From the statistics which have been given above, and from the remarks which have been made concerning them, the question of age has been purposely eliminated. It is obvious, however, that the illiterates contain not only the illiterate adults and the children not at school, but also all the children who are not yet of age to commence their education, and that therefore their absolute total is much higher, and the proportion of illiterates to scholars and literates is much greater, than it will be if, as should be the case, for the basis of calculation the number of persons is taken who were of an age to have learnt to read and write. The first thing to be done, then, is to eliminate all those who are not of a school-going age. The experience of European statisticians has shown that the number of children of a school-going age may be taken at 15 per cent of the population. It may also be admitted for the purposes of calculation that the inferior limit of this period is the fifth year of life. Doubtless many children below the age of five years are receiving instruction, but the fifth year seems, for several reasons, to be the most suitable for adoption as marking the threshold of learning, and therefore all those who may be learning or already educated may be taken as equal to the total population less the numbers in the age group 0 to 4.

436. Upon this basis a table has been prepared accompanied by a graphic diagram, both of which will be found in Appendix A. They refer to the male population only, because female education is almost non-existent and may be left out of the calculation. The diagram illustrates the percentages which the table contains, and they combine to show for the male population five years old and upwards the percentage of persons in each district who fall within each of the three educational categories, separating them also according to their religious belief into the three large groups of Hindus, Mahomedans, and All Religions. Taking the whole province first, it will be seen that in every 1,000 males of all religions above

five years of age 34 are learning, 67 can read and write, and 898 are ignorant. Among the Hindus the proportion of illiterates is somewhat less, but it rises considerably above the mean in the case of Mahomedans. Out of 1,000 Hindus of the age specified 38 are learning, 79 can read and write, and 882 are ignorant. Among the Mahomedans the proportions are 26, 45, and 928, thus demonstrating what was already known to be the case, viz. that the standard of education is much higher among the Hindus than among the followers of Islam. This conclusion receives additional confirmation from an examination of the Divisional figures, which for facility of reference are given in the statement below:—

No. 54.—Statement showing the Number of Persons in every 10,000 *found in each Division in each Grade of Education.*

Divisions.	All Religions.			Hindus.			Mahomedans.		
	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.
Burdwan	*684*	1,291	8,028	*741*	1,397	7,860	*441*	849	8,708
Presidency	*465*	1,091	8,442	*668*	1,567	7,768	*236*	533	9,229
Rajshahye	*291*	597	9,110	*347*	829	8,822	*258*	338	9,402
Dacca	*373*	709	8,916	*686*	1,408	7,904	*192*	305	9,501
Chittagong	*613*	971	8,414	*772*	1,670	7,556	*543*	655	8,800
All Bengal Proper ...	*463*	919	8,616	*649*	1,360	7,989	*280*	474	9,244
Patna	*189*	426	9,383	*190*	433	9,375	*180*	344	9,474
Bhaugulpore	*174*	338	9,486	*181*	368	9,449	*201*	340	9,457
All Behar...	*184*	395	9,419	*187*	413	9,398	*190*	342	9,466
Orissa	*477*	703	8,818	*477*	699	8,822	*445*	756	8,797
Chota Nagpore	*161*	298	9,539	*185*	349	9,464	*163*	276	9,559
All Bengal	*349*	688	8,961	*344*	817	8,837	*266*	453	9,279
Feudatory States	*145*	305	9,548	*152*	341	9,505	*295*	391	9,312
All Bengal, including Feudatory States.	341	673	8,984	386	793	8,819	266	453	9,279

Distribution of illiterates.

437. Dealing first with the illiterates, and beginning with the general population of All Religions, it will be observed that the proportion of illiterates is highest in the Feudatory States, where they are 9,548 in every 10,000 of the population; Chota Nagpore following with 9,539, Bhaugulpore with 9,486, Patna with 9,383, and Rajshahye with 9,110. No other Division has so many as 9,000. In the two Divisions first named the large admixture of the aboriginal element is responsible for the extent of illiteracy. In Behar education is confessedly very backward, and the condition of the Rajshahye Division is chiefly due to the large proportion which its Mahomedan population bears; for whereas among the Hindus of that Division only 8,822 in 10,000 are illiterate, the proportion of illiterates in 10,000 Mahomedans is 9,402. The argument of religion, however, does not always hold good. If it did, we should expect that the Orissa Division, in which 97·40 per cent of the population are Hindus, would show the smallest proportion of illiterates. In point of fact, however, it stands only fourth; and the Division in which illiteracy is least general is that of Burdwan, which has a percentage of only 83·96 Hindus. Its rank is doubtless due to its propinquity to Calcutta and to its central situation. The Chittagong and Presidency Divisions stand second and third in order of least ignorance. That the Presidency Division, with its large metropolitan population, should be so high up is no matter for surprise; but the position of Chittagong, which has a larger proportion of Mahomedans, viz. 67·86 per cent, than any other Division, was somewhat unexpected. Of individual districts, those which are closest to the Presidency town have of course the smallest proportion of illiterates: thus in 10,000 of its population Calcutta has only 6,232 who cannot read and write, Howrah 7,492, the Suburbs 7,650, Hooghly 7,660, and the 24-Pergunnahs 7,784. The largest proportion of illiterates is found in the Tributary Estates of Chota Nagpore (9,867), Chumparun (9,674), Lohardugga (9,642), Hazaribagh (9,622), the Sonthal Pergunnahs (9,614), and the Orissa Tributary States (9,607)—in all of which districts education is backward, the population (except in Chumparun) scattered, and the aboriginal element considerable.

438. Turning next to the educated population, *i.e.* those able to read and write as distinguished from those who are still learning, the general proportion for the whole province is 6·73 per cent, or one to every 13 who can neither read nor write. It will be obvious that these are almost all adults; and this fact assists to explain why the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions, with their great towns, stand so high. The Burdwan Division has nearly 13 per cent of its male population five years old and upwards literates, and stands first with nearly double the provincial mean; the next Division is the Presidency with 10·91, and then Chittagong with 9·71; while the Divisions with the smallest proportion of educated persons are Chota Nagpore (2·98 per cent), Feudatory States (3·05), Bhaugulpore (3·38), and Patna (4·26). The districts which contain the greatest proportion of literates are those where the proportion of adults is greatest, viz. Calcutta (29·95), the Suburbs (18·31), Howrah (16·74), Hooghly (15·72), and the 24-Pergunnahs (15·00); while the districts which are worst off in this respect are those which have already been noticed as showing the greatest degree of illiteracy, though they do not stand in the same order, viz. the Tributary States of Chota Nagpore (·99 per cent), Singbhoom (2·31), Lohardugga (2·34), Hazaribagh (2·55), and the Tributary States of Orissa (2·71). Of literates.

439. But statistics of literacy and illiteracy, however interesting, refer only to the past; they denote the comparative attainments of persons who are no longer in a position to improve their educational status, and whose day for learning has gone. Statistics of actual instruction, on the other hand, have this additional element of interest that they deal with the present and the future; and while they show to what stage education has already advanced, they supply us with a means of comparison with the past and of forecast for the future. Emigration and immigration apart, that district or Division which has the largest proportion of scholars has the brightest promise for the future; while the largest proportion of educated adults denotes the longest settlement, the best appreciation of the advantages of learning, and the greatest diffusion of general intelligence and material prosperity. Judged by these standards, no Division of Bengal, as we have seen, surpasses that of Burdwan in its present prosperity; while the statistics of instruction show that it stands first in promise for the future. Of its whole male population five years old and upwards 6·84 per cent are under instruction; Chittagong stands second, with a percentage of 6·13; and Orissa third, with 4·77 per cent. Four Divisions take a very low place; and if the figures for instruction are correct, and the error alluded to in paragraph 431 above has been avoided, they show a lamentably low proportion of scholars. In the Feudatory States they are only 1·45 per cent, in Chota Nagpore 1·61, in Bhaugulpore 1·74, and in Patna 1·89. But it will be remembered that these are the Divisions to which schedules in the Persian, Nagri, and Kaithi characters were sent; and it is possible that the number of persons able to read and write has been overstated at the expense of those under instruction. It will be noticed that while in most other Divisions the literates stand to the learners in the ratio of rather less than 2 to 1, in the Divisions of Patna and Chota Nagpore and in the Feudatory States the proportion of the literates is more than twice as great as that of the learners. On the other hand, it is common knowledge, and the statistics of the Educational Department show that these Divisions are the most backward in the province in respect of present instruction; and there can be no doubt that, whether the ratios for each are exactly right or not, their position at the bottom of the list is in accordance with known facts. School instruction is at the lowest ebb in the Tributary States of Chota Nagpore, where only 32 boys in 10,000 are pupils. The districts with which we are already familiar as prominent for illiteracy and for deficiency of educated persons follow almost in the same order: Chumparun has only 1·03 per cent of the population at school, the Tributary States of Orissa 1·20, Hazaribagh has 1·21, Lohardugga 1·22, and the Sonthal Pergunnahs 1·33. But it is surprising to find several other districts with a proportion of scholars equivalent to less than 2 per cent of their population. Better things, for instance, might have been expected of Monghyr (1·28), Mozufferpore (1·61), Shahabad and Durbhunga (1·72 each), Bhaugulpore (1·83), and Gya (1·93), and they reveal a backwardness which is not surpassed by the Mahomedan districts of the Rajshahye Division. On the other hand in Howrah, where the population of a school-going age bears a more reasonable proportion to the whole than in the metropolis, the percentage under instruction is 8·32; in Calcutta it is 7·71, in Hooghly 7·66, in the 24-Pergunnahs 7·14, in Midnapore 7·12, and in Bankoorah 7·04. And of pupils.

State of education in the population of different religions.

440. The Hindus compose so large a portion of the whole population, viz. 65·36 per cent, that where, as is the case in most districts, theirs is the prevailing religion, the educational statistics for All Religions and for Hindus vary very slightly; but wherever any variation occurs it is almost always in favour of the Hindus, and in most cases it may be said that the statistics for All Religions are the statistics for Hindus reduced in proportion to the number of Mahomedans and persons of Other Religions found in the district. Thus, whereas in 1,000 persons of All Religions the illiterates are 898, among 1,000 Hindus the illiterates are 881 only; for every 67 men of all religions who can read and write the Hindus can show 79, and for every 34 scholars of the whole population they can show 38. It would seem, therefore, that it is in the class of learners alone that their supremacy is at all challenged. The facile and receptive Hindu has from the earliest times lent himself to all such new learning as seemed to promise him advancement or profit. He has ever been an eager student, both of his own and of exotic learning. In the times of the Mogul empire, though most of those posts whose splendour caught the eye and filled the imagination were appropriated by the ruling race, the humbler, but perhaps hardly less lucrative, appointments in the general administration were held by Hindus, whose capacity for business fitted them for the administration of details which were beneath the notice, or beyond the patience, of their masters. The Kayasth was hardly less powerful in 1700 than he was a hundred years later. Akbar's greatest financier was a Hindu of this caste. And there is reason to believe that there never was a time, even in the reign of the austere and bigoted Aurungzebe, who, as is well known, endeavoured unsuccessfully to deprive them of office, when the Hindus were not a power in the State, and when they did not cultivate learning for what it brought them. When the Mahomedan empire fell before the growing power of the British, the Hindu changed the direction without abating the earnestness of his studies; and while the Mahomedan, proud and bigoted, cherishing the memory of a ruined greatness and the traditions of a faded splendour, held sullenly aloof from the conquering race, and partly from dislike, partly from pride, refused to acquire their language or to countenance their measures, the pliant Hindu redoubled his exertions and soon succeeded in obtaining almost exclusive possession of all posts in the country that were open to natives. Since that time he has eagerly availed himself of the efforts which the British have continually made for the better education of their subjects; and while the more intelligent classes in particular have diligently applied themselves to the study of English, the schools crowded with Hindu boys, to be found in almost every village, attest their appreciation of the value of vernacular education. Of late years the Mahomedan community has begun to wake from its lethargy, and some advance has been made in the spread of learning among the Mahomedans of the better classes. Among the lower classes, however, this renaissance has had little or no effect, and their ignorance is as complete as ever.

Hindus and Mahomedans.

441. Though the progress of education among the Hindus has been marked by these leading characteristics, they are not equally conspicuous in all parts of the country. To Bengal and Orissa the above remarks apply in their fullest extent, but in Behar and Chota Nagpore education has always been backward, as the following figures will show.—In Bengal, taken as a whole, the illiterate Hindus are 8,819 in 10,000, as compared with 9,279 in the same number of Mahomedans and 8,984 in 10,000 men of all religions. In Bengal proper the illiterate Hindus are only 7,989, as against 9,244 Mahomedans and 8,616 of all religions. In Orissa the very few Mahomedans (only 85,611 in all, or 2·29 per cent,) are mostly of the better classes, and the proportion of illiterates among them is actually less than among the Hindus. On the other hand in Behar and Chota Nagpore the proportion of Hindu illiterates is very slightly less than among the Mahomedans, and is very much higher than the mean of the province Taking each Division by itself, they stand in respect of Hindu illiterates in the same order as they did for illiterates of all religions; but just as in Orissa the few Mahomedans are exceptionally enlightened, so in Chittagong the few Hindus are of the most intelligent class. Of the districts the most illiterate is that which is composed of the Tributary States of Chota Nagpore, followed by the several districts of the Chota Nagpore Division and the province of Behar, with the single exception of Purneah, the Bengali element in which has succeeded in raising its average. The largest proportion of educated persons (as distinguished from learners) in the Hindu as in the general population is found in the metropolitan districts, and the smallest proportion in those of Behar and Chota

Nagpore. The districts which rank highest for their proportion of Hindu scholars are Calcutta and Howrah, the 24-Pergunnahs, Chittagong, Dacca, and Hooghly, in all of which places the ratio is more than 8 per cent; and the great excess of Hindu scholars, in comparison with those of other religions, which has already been alleged, can be strikingly shown in the following way:—Hindu scholars are more than 5 per cent of the Hindu population five years old and upwards in twenty-two districts, while there are six districts with more than 8 per cent, and three in all with more than 7 per cent of scholars. With regard to Mahomedans, only six districts have more than 5 per cent of scholars, and of these six only two have more than 6 per cent.

Christians and Others.

442. The literacy and illiteracy of the Mahomedans has been sufficiently discussed in the foregoing paragraphs, and need not be touched upon again. Of other religions, the highest place is taken of course by the Christians. Out of every 10,000 Christian men and boys five years old and upwards only 5,245 were illiterate, while 3,464 could read and write and 1,289 were learning. The European and Eurasian community are such small contributors to the illiterates that it is surprising to find so large a proportion of illiterates, clearly denoting the existence of much ignorance among the Native Christians in spite of the efforts of mission schools. Among the aboriginal peoples the amount of education which is evidenced by the ability to read and write hardly exists at all. Great pains have been taken of late to extend education among the Sonthals, but the figures of the census do not exhibit much fruit from these efforts, since they show that in 10,000 male Sonthals five years old and upwards 9,929 are absolutely ignorant, 36 can read, and 33 are at school.

State of education in the male population of a school-going age.

443. In the foregoing paragraphs the whole population five years old and upwards has been considered with reference to all three grades of educational attainment; but so long as the field of enquiry is not made narrower than this, no very clear conclusions can be drawn as to the statistics of instruction in a province. That can be better ascertained by examining the proportion of scholars to children of a school-going age. In European countries this examination can usefully be extended to children of both sexes; but in Bengal, as has been pointed out, female education is so infinitesimal that it may be left out of the question, and the statistics of male instruction alone discussed. Starting with this proviso, and accepting the usual European calculation that the school-going population amounts to 15 per cent of the whole, the following table has been prepared showing the percentages of male learners on the boys of a school-going age in each district in the whole population, and in the Hindu and Mahomedan communities:—

No. 55.—Statement showing the Proportion of Learners in every 100 boys of a School-going Age.

District, Division, and Province.	All Religions.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.	District, Division, and Province.	All Religions.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.
Burdwan	32·45	36·01	18·09	Dinagepore	16·61	13·71	19·24
Bankoorah	40·22	44·04	33·23	Rajshahye	14·40	27·08	10·80
Beerbhoom	33·33	35·79	26·94	Rungpore	14·24	18·09	11·71
Midnapore	41·18	44·35	24·85	Bogra	26·46	32·97	24·84
Hooghly	44·98	47·93	31·49	Pubna	20·87	42·24	12·87
Howrah	47·96	52·87	28·17	Darjeeling	12·06	11·96	15·66
				Julpigoree	11·67	10·85	13·24
Burdwan Division ...	***39·71***	***43·16***	***25·45***	***Rajshahye Division*** ...	***16·74***	***20·28***	***14·66***
				Dacca	25·60	47·50	9·9
				Furreedpore	22·66	43·91	9·01
24-Pergunnahs ...	41·09	50·78	24·50	Backergunge	23·82	40·96	15·26
Suburbs	32·00	40·33	16·42	Mymensingh	15·84	29·89	9·09
Calcutta	48·04	57 92	18·08	***Dacca Division*** ...	***21·05***	***39·70***	***10·70***
Nuddea	17·89	31·27	7·66				
Jessore	23·50	38·96	13·38	Chittagong	36·67	49·11	32·23
Khulna	23·34	33·09	14·11	Noakholly	38·44	45·83	35·85
Moorshedabad	18·01	24·72	10·52	Tipperah	30·56	41·79	24·95
				Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	Not available.		
Presidency Division ...	***26·92***	***39·15***	***13·50***	***Chittagong Division*** ...	***34·36***	***44·59***	***30·03***
				All Bengal Proper	26·54	37·80	15·77

No. 55.—Statement showing the Proportion of Learners in every 100 boys of a School-going Age—continued.

District, Division, and Province.	All Religions.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.	District, Division, and Province.	All Religions.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.
Patna	19·04	17·98	25·62	Cuttack	27·20	27·06	28·34
Gya	11·00	11·00	11·01	Pooree	21·67	21·59	20·62
Shahabad	9·79	9·41	14·46	Balasore	35·01	35·42	22·89
Mozufferpore	9·24	9·62	6·35	Angul	10·62	10·70	26·08
Durbhunga	9·90	10·14	7·98	Banki	17·22	17·29	4·76
Sarun	12·02	12·39	7·03	*Orissa* ...	*27·20*	*27·19*	*25·39*
Chumparun	5·98	6·24	4·09				
				Hazaribagh	6·70	7·31	5·97
				Lohardugga	6·82	8·82	10·83
Patna Division ...	*10·84*	*10·87*	*10·28*	Singbhoom	13·35	12·47	55·67
				Manbhoom	12·91	13·81	10·82
				Chota Nagpore ...	*9·03*	*10·42*	*9·09*
Monghyr	7·34	7·01	10·03				
Bhaugulpore	10·59	10·54	11·36	All Bengal ...	19·98	22·06	15·00
Purneah	12·01	11·93	12·07				
Maldah	16·22	20·20	11·51	Cooch Behar	18·87	19·45	17·43
Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	7·51	11·23	10·04	Hill Tipperah	Not available.		
				Tributary States, Orissa ...	6·87	8·67	6·98
Bhaugulpore Division	*10·02*	*10·46*	*11·50*	Do., Chota Nagpore	1·84	1·79	8·88
				All Feudatory States...	*8·30*	*8·70*	*16·89*
All Behar ...	10·55	10·75	10·88	All Bengal, including Feudatory States.	19·50	22·25	15·02

Local distribution of learners.

444. In the whole province, including the Feudatory States, rather more than 19 boys in 100 are at school; but if the Feudatory States be omitted, the proportion rises to nearly 20 in 100. Comparing the different provinces together, Orissa, with 27·20 per cent of its boys scholars, stands first, and Bengal is second, with 26·54 per cent: the Feudatory States are of course last, with a percentage of 8·30 only, Chota Nagpore being very little better with 9·03 and Behar with 10·55: so that in point of fact education is more than twice as popular in Orissa and Bengal as it is in Behar, and nearly three times as popular as it is in Chota Nagpore and the Feudatcry States.

445. It is, however, somewhat unfair to compare Bengal with so small a province as Orissa or Chota Nagpore, because, while each of these is but the size of one small Division, Bengal contains several Divisions with very varying conditions of life. Comparing these Divisions among themselves Burdwan stands highest, with nearly 4 scholars in every 10 boys; the Chittagong Division is second, with 34·36 per cent; and a wide gap separates these from the 27·20 per cent of Orissa and the 26·92 per cent of the Presidency Division, which would be much higher but for the illiteracy of Nuddea. Dacca takes a middle place, with 21·05 per cent, its mean being much lowered by the backwardness of Mymensingh. None of the other Divisions have more than half this proportion except Rajshahye, which stands half way between the two extremes: so that the Divisions of Bengal may be arranged in respect of school instruction in three groups—the good, consisting of Burdwan and Chittagong; the medium, comprising Orissa, the Presidency, and Dacca; and the bad, connected with the medium group by the link of Rajshahye, and composed of Patna, Bhaugulpore, Chota Nagpore, and the Feudatory States.

446. In respect of district figures for instruction, Calcutta and Howrah take a very high place, with nearly 50 per cent of their boys at school; Hooghly, where primary education is very popular, and where there is also a large college, is third, with nearly 45 per cent; and Midnapore, where there has been in existence for some time a carefully elaborated scheme of indigenous education, is fourth, with 41·18 per cent. The 24-Pergunnahs, as might have been expected from its situation, is well up with 41·09 per cent, which makes it fifth in the whole list. Bankoorah, where again there is a complete system of village schools, is sixth, with 4 boys at school out of every 10. No other districts have so large a proportion of

scholars as 40 per cent; but Noakholly and Chittagong head the group of seven which have more than 30 per cent, viz. Noakholly, Chittagong, Balasore, Beerbhoom, the Suburbs, and Tipperah. Nine other districts have more than one in five, or 20 per cent. The district in which instruction seems much the most backward is that of the Tributary States of Chota Nagpore, where the boys at school are less than 2 per cent; and it may be remarked that this is a part of the country which has not yet been brought in any way under the control of the Director of Public Instruction. Next to this district, but a good way above it, come those of Chumparun (5·98), Hazaribagh (6·70), Lohardugga (6·82), the Tributary States of Orissa (6·87), and Monghyr (7·34). It will be noticed that Nuddea, with only 17·89 per cent, is far below the average of the other districts in the Division; and the only sound theory of explanation is that it is due to the fever which has lately played such havoc with the district. Children have been too ill to come to school, and teachers too feeble to teach, so that this district, which was once famous throughout India for its learning, has now hardly a greater proportion of scholars than some of the most backward districts of the province. Patna owes its prominence over the other districts of the Division to its large College, and to the advantages offered by its great city, which is especially the centre of Mahomedan education in Behar.

Distribution of learners by religion.

447. It has already been stated how much greater eagerness in the pursuit of learning is shown by the Hindus than by any other community, and the statistics of juvenile instruction fully corroborate the statement. While the proportion of scholars of all religions is for all Bengal 19·50 per cent, the Hindu scholars are 22·25 per cent of the Hindu boys of a school-going age. These figures, however, include those of many districts where the term 'Hindu' was very loosely used; and if those parts of the country are examined where the calculation is not vitiated by the addition of semi-aboriginal races, it will be seen that the proportion of Hindu scholars considerably exceeds the average percentage of scholars of all religions. A comparison of the percentages will show that almost everywhere the percentage of Hindu scholars exceeds that of the scholars of all religions, and greatly exceeds those of the Mussulman faith. In only 11 cases is the Hindu percentage lower than the general one; and where this inferiority is found, its extent is very small. Compared with the Mahomedans, scholars of the Hindu faith are very much more numerous; in 100 boys of each religion the difference often amounting to more than two to one, and sometimes extending, as in the case of Dacca, to a ratio of five to one. On the other hand, the districts where the Mahomedan are in proportion more numerous than the Hindu scholars are extremely few. Patna, which is one instance, has exceptional facilities for Mahomedan education: Shahabad, while it has a small Mahomedan population, contains one large Mahomedan town (Sasseram) with endowments for scholastic purposes: in Dinagepore the Hindus are in the minority, and are mostly of the lower classes: in Singbhoom and Angul the number of Mahomedans is so small that their statistics are abnormal and without significance.

448. Reviewing the whole question, it may be said generally that in the most advanced parts of Bengal from 20 to 40 per cent of the boys of a school-going age are at school; in less developed districts, or where Mahomedanism is the prevailing religion, this ratio falls to from 10 to 20 per cent; while in the wilder and half-civilised parts of the country it dwindles to nothing at all. The ratio for Hindus is usually half as high again as the ratio for All Religions, and more than twice as great as that for Mahomedans.

449. No figures for other than these two great religions are given, because they would only mislead. Instruction among the aboriginal tribes is almost unknown. On the other hand, the circumstances of the Christian community in India are so peculiar, especially those of the European section of it, that no useful object could be served by discussing in detail the figures which a similar calculation would give. Taken as a class, however, it appears that 74 per cent of all the Christian boys of a school-going age are receiving instruction, and this may be somewhere near the truth.

Figures for Bengal compared with those of other countries.

450. Compared with the other great provinces of the Indian empire, Bengal takes the third place in respect of the proportion which its male pupils bear to the whole male population of a school-going age. In Madras, which stands first, the percentage is 22·47, in Bombay it is 21·65, and in Bengal, as we have seen, it is 19·50. Between these three provinces and the next, however, there

is a very wide interval; for the Punjab, which stands fourth, has a percentage of 9·45 only, or less than half that of Bengal, the Central Provinces have 8·79, and the North-Western Provinces and Oudh 8·65.

451. In Great Britain in 1882 the average daily attendance of scholars, male and female, in the 21,136 schools under Government inspection was 3,848,011. If the children of a school-going age be taken at 15 per cent of the population, their number of both sexes would be 4,455,578. A simple calculation will then show this startling result that 86·36 per cent of the children of a school-going age are at school. In the United States of America taken as a whole the same calculation on the figures of the late census of 1880 gives 83·42 per cent of the school-going population as at school. In France at the census of 1876 the number of scholars *on the rolls* was found to be 4,903,926, while the school-going population, upon the basis of calculation already adopted, was 5,544,268, thus giving the proportion of scholars to children of a school-going age at the high figure of 88·45 per cent. Probably, however, the true figure is much less, since, unless France is unlike most other countries in the world, the average daily attendance at school is a good deal less than the number on the rolls.

Female education.

452. So far it is only the male population that has been considered, but the subject cannot be quitted without a brief notice of female education in Bengal.

453. It is a well known and much deplored fact that the education of women in India is at a very low ebb. Something has been done by the State, something by missionary enterprise, and something by individual effort, to improve the intellectual condition of the women of India, and there are signs, increasing in number and clearness every year, that these efforts have not been thrown away. Elementary knowledge is spreading, doors which were once closed to the stranger are opening daily to admit the zenana teacher or the school mistress, and a generation which has seen girls beginning to attend boys' schools and native ladies presenting themselves for examinations supervised by the University of Calcutta may expect that before it passes away female education may advance to a stage of which its friends of a former generation could hardly have dreamed. But though the east is grey, the day is still far off; and the statistics of female education in Bengal show so lamentable a result that, looking to the whole mass of women in the province, it may be said that reading and writing is virtually unknown among them. Such as they are, however, the figures will be found in the following paragraphs.

454. It has already been stated that if the whole population of all ages be taken, the proportion of illiterate females is as 9,972 in 10,000, the learners being 10 in the same number and the literate women 17. If the element of religion be introduced into the calculation without reference to age, the pitiable disproportion between the state of female education in the Christian and in all other communities becomes very clear. The fact needs no proof, but the abstract in the margin is intended to convey some idea of the extent of the difference. It will be seen that out of every 10,000 women in Bengal 6,552 are Hindus, 3,107 Mahomedans, and 17 are Christians; that is to say, to every Christian female there are 385 who are Hindus and 182 who are Mahomedans. If education were equally diffused among all the different religions, the same proportion would be maintained, and there would be 385 Hindu girls at school to every 182 Mahomedans and 1 Christian. But what are the facts? In every 10,000 learners there are 1,480 Christian girls to 5,954 Hindus and 2,304 Mahomedans; so that the Hindu school girls, instead of being 385 times as numerous as the Christian girls, are only four times as numerous, and the Mahomedans, instead of exceeding them in the proportion of 182 to 1, exceed them in the ratio of less than 2 to 1. The result given by the figures for the literates is still more astounding. Instead of the Hindus being as 385 to 1,

No. 56.—Statement showing Statistics of Education among the Women of the Principal Religions.

Religions.	Learning.	Can read and write.	Proportion of each religion in 10,000 of the population.
Hindus	5,954	6,258	6,552
Mahomedans	2,304	1,911	3,107
Christians	1,480	1,679	17
All others	260	150	322
Total All Religions	***10,000***	***10,000***	***10,000***

they are as 15 to 4, and the number of Mahomedan women who can read or write hardly exceeds that of literate Christian women, though the ratio that might have been expected was 182 to 1. It is clear, therefore, that while education among the Christian female community is out of all proportion greater than in any other, the Mahomedans have in proportion fewer educated ladies than the Hindus, though their proportion of school girls is slightly better. The same facts may be put in another way. In every 10,000 Christian females of all ages 876 are learning, 1,708 can read and write, and 7,416, or rather less than three out of four, are ignorant. In every 10,000 Hindu women and girls only 9 are at school and only 16 can read and write, leaving 9,975 who are entirely illiterate. The condition of the Mahomedan female population, however, is worse, for in every 10,000 of them only 7 are learning and 10 can read and write, so that 9,983 have no learning whatever.

455. If we examine the statistics of education among the female population five years old and upwards, the picture is the same. In every 10,000 females of five years old and upwards there are 6,602 Hindus, 3,066 Mahomedans, 17 Christians, and 315 persons of other religions. If it be assumed again that education is equally diffused, there should be 388 Hindus either learning or able to read and write, and 180 Mahomedans, to every Christian in the same position; but in reality the proportions are those which have already been stated, viz. to every Christian girl who is at school there are only four Hindus and two Mahomedans, and to every Christian woman who can read there are one Mahomedan and less than four Hindus. Again, out of every 10,000 women and girls of this age of All Religions 12 are learning and 20 can read or write. Among the Hindus and Mahomedans the proportions are 10 and 19 and 9 and 12 respectively, while among the Christians 1,043 are learning and 2,035 can read and write. In other words, the proportion of illiterates in 10,000 females five years old and upwards is for All Religions 9,968, for Hindus 9,971, for Mahomedans 9,979, and for Christians 6,922 only. Comment on such statistics as the above is hardly needed, for they lead to one conclusion only, viz. that to all intents and purposes the efforts which have been made to teach and educate the native women of India have hitherto failed to make any impression on the great mass of ignorance which they represent.

The statistics of the Educational Department compared with those of the census.

456. No comparison has yet been made between the educational statistics obtained from the census papers and those provided by the Director of Public Instruction in his annual report. Such a comparison cannot fail to be extremely interesting; and it will be seen that it supplies valuable testimony to the trustworthiness of either set of statistics. Unfortunately, however, it cannot be carried out in all its details, because the two sets of figures do not cover the same ground. While the Educational Department takes cognizance only of such schools and scholars as are placed under its supervision, accept its educational course, and use its hand-books, the census enumerator's figures include, in addition to these, all those who are under private tuition or are at schools which do not recognise the authority of the Director of Public Instruction. Hence the scholars entered on the papers of a census must always be more numerous than those borne on the rolls of the Educational Department. If allowance be made for this fact, and also for the scholars in Feudatory States, the schools of which were not included in the returns of the Educational Department in 1881, the correspondence between the two sets of figures is very close. On the 17th February 1881 there were in Bengal, according to the census, 1,027,752 scholars of both sexes, and on the 31st March in the same year the number of scholars on the rolls of the Educational Department was 928,489—a difference of 12 per cent only. According to that Department 77·62 per cent of this number were Hindus, 19·87 per cent Mahomedans, 1·09 per cent Christians, and 1·39 per cent persons of other religions. The census figures show 74·06 per cent as Hindus, 24·13 per cent as Mahomedans, 1·22 per cent as Christians, and ·57 per cent as belonging to other religions. The correspondence is extremely near, more especially as each variation can be immediately explained. The excess of Mahomedan learners in the census figures is attributable to their known predilection for household tuition, and to their reluctance to join in the British system of education, which has led to the establishment of numerous *maktabs* or Mahomedan village schools outside

the pale of official supervision. The excess under the head of Christians is doubtless due to causes somewhat similar, though arising from different motives; while, lastly, the gain of Hindus and the loss under "Others" in the census figures only corroborates what has already been stated elsewhere, viz. that a large number of persons who are not really Aryan Hindus have returned themselves as such in the census schedules. The absolute figures are as follows:—

	According to Census.	According to Educational Department.
Hindu scholars	759,655	720,759
Mahomedans	249,832	184,550
Christians	12,719	10,185
Other religions	5,546	12,995
Total ...	1,027,752	928,489

457. In his report for 1881-82, the Director of Public Instruction in Bengal examines at length the discrepancies between the figures of his own Department and those given in the census tables; and the usefulness of the statistics which the census papers supply has already been demonstrated by his directing enquiries to be made into the true position of affairs, where they show a greater number of scholars than the official lists of the Education Department.

458. In the following abstract the divisional figures for all scholars of both sexes are compared, and it will show the great general correspondence of the two sets of statistics:—

Divisions.	Census Figures.	Educational Department Figures.	
		1881.	1882.
Burdwan	220,375	223,771	230,937
Presidency (including Calcutta)	178,300	156,847	151,318
Rajshahye	102,455	55,303	63,219
Dacca	142,158	96,896	146,471
Chittagong	91,741	63,197	114,299
Patna	125,807	138,557	147,457
Bhaugulpore	62,258	80,524	89,403
Chota Nagpore	29,518	30,956	34,155
Orissa	77,130	82,438	96,367
	1,027,752	928,489	1,093,626

459. For the Burdwan, Chota Nagpore, and Orissa Divisions the figures of both departments are very similar. In the Presidency Division there is an excess of nearly 22,000 in the census figures, for which no explanation is readily forthcoming. In the Rajshahye, Dacca, and Chittagong Divisions the census enumerators discovered a much larger number of scholars than appear on the rolls of the Educational Department; and the explanation, no doubt, is that in all these Divisions there is a large number of Mahomedans who, as already stated, are especially likely to escape through the meshes of the educational net. It is to be observed that the departmental figures for 1882 in Dacca and Chittagong approach the census figures more nearly than do those of 1881. In the Patna and Bhaugulpore Divisions there is a great discrepancy, which is against the census figures; but it will be remembered that these are the Divisions in which the Nagri, Urdu, and Kaithi schedules were used, and some of the scholars have no doubt been entered as literates. Writing of primary education in his report for 1881-82, and more especially of the system of payment-by-results, Mr. Croft says:—

"Throughout Orissa, and in the Burdwan and Chittagong Divisions, the system has expanded with extraordinary rapidity, and the number of pupils in primary schools of organised instruction varies in these Divisions from 25 to 29½ per 1,000 of the population. In the Presidency and Dacca Divisions the proportion of pupils to population falls to 13 and 10 per 1,000; but in both Divisions, and especially the latter, a further great extension of the system may be looked for.

* * * * * *

"Rajshahye and Chota Nagpore are the only Divisions in which partly from local and partly from other causes, the system has not yet been productive of large results, there being only

six pupils in primary schools per every 1,000 of the population. But the Inspector of the Rajshahye Circle and the Assistant Inspector of Chota Nagpore are convinced of the existence of a large number of indigenous schools which are as yet untouched by our operations."

These remarks, recorded by the head of the Education Department upon information obtained from the records of his own office, coincide surprisingly with the conclusions stated in the foregoing paragraphs, which were drawn independently from the figured statements of the census. Both sets of statistics place the Burdwan, Chittagong, and Orissa Divisions in the front rank of primary education; both show that in the Divisions of Rajshahye and Chota Nagpore primary education is somewhat backward: while the authoritative announcement of the inspecting officer, that much indigenous education in the Rajshahye Division has not yet been brought within the operations of the Educational Department, receives striking corroboration from the large excess in the number of scholars which the census figures show.

460. If we look at smaller units than that of the Division, the same correspondence appears. The prominence of Chittagong and Noakholly in educational matters has already been mentioned more than once. The Director of Public Instruction reported in 1881-82 that these were two of the districts which had shown the greatest development. Bankoorah and Midnapore, both of which hold a high place in the census tables, are districts where Mr. Croft says that the payment-by-results system has achieved large results. Other instances of this close corroboration might be supplied, but it will be simpler to give side by side the districts placed in order according to the census figures and the departmental returns of 1880-81 and 1881-82. The departmental figures, upon which the districts have been marshalled, are those showing primary education only; while the census figures are those of the class under instruction, which, as has already been explained, may be taken as covering very much the same ground as the departmental figures for primary education. In both case the order of the districts has been decided by the proportion of scholars each contains to the children of a school-going age, taking that as 15 per cent of the population.

According to the Census.	According to the Education Department.	
	1880-81.	1881-82.
Calcutta.	Burdwan.	Noakholly.
Howrah.	Balasore.	Hooghly.
Hooghly.	Bankoorah.	Tipperah.
Midnapore.	Midnapore.	Balasore.
24-Pergunnahs.	Hooghly.	Calcutta.
Bankoorah.	24-Pergunnahs.	Burdwan.
Noakholly.	Howrah.	Bankoorah.
Chittagong.	Tipperah.	Midnapore.
Balasore.	Beerbhoom.	Howrah.
Beerbhoom.	Noakholly.	24-Pergunnahs.
Burdwan.	Cuttack.	Cuttack.
Suburbs.	Poorce.	Chittagong.
Tipperah.	Patna.	Backergunge.
Cuttack.	Backergunge.	Pooree.
Bogra.	Monghyr.	Beerbhoom.
Dacca.	Bhaugulpore.	Dacca.

CHAPTER XIII.

STATISTICS OF INFIRMITIES.

(Tables XIV to XVII, page 441 to page 518 of Appendix B.)

Introductory.

461. The tables recited at the head of this chapter give statistics for all persons afflicted with four great infirmities, which, from their permanent and serious character, seemed to require the compilation of special information when a general census of the people of India was taken. These infirmities are 1st, Unsoundness of mind; 2nd, Blindness; 3rd, Deaf-mutism; and 4th, Leprosy. For each disease a separate set of tables has been prepared, and these tables show the numbers of persons, males and females, in each district, division, and province who are suffering from the infirmity in question, dividing them further according to their religious belief, and grouping them into ten age periods. The whole population embraced by the enquiries upon which these statistics have been compiled amounts to 69,339,627 souls only, of whom 34,517,587 were males and 34,872,040 were females. The difference between these figures and those of the whole province is due to the exclusion of the population of the Chittagong Hill Tracts and the State of Hill Tipperah, where no systematic enquiry was conducted into the infirmities of the inhabitants.

462. Into the examination of statistics of this character it is equally useless and presumptuous for the author of a general census report to go at any length. They require a special knowledge, which is not often possessed by any one who has not made these infirmities his study; and their complete elaboration demands a special enquiry which has not yet been attempted. For these reasons the subject can only be very briefly treated in the present chapter. The endeavour will be made to bring out the most prominent features of the tables—as to the prevalence of each disease at different ages; as to its distribution, both locally and among the people of different religions; and as to the proportions of the sexes among the afflicted. But the interesting task of examining into the causes and framing laws for the occurrence of these phenomena must be left to the diligence of private investigators or the researches of a Commission, which Government might, with advantage, appoint to collect further and more detailed information.

463. It should be noted, moreover, that perfect accuracy cannot be claimed for the statistics given in these tables. An enquiry into the personal infirmities of a household is always a difficult and delicate matter, even in those societies where the object of the enquiry is best understood; but it has little chance of complete success among a people whose natural suspiciousness is aggravated by great sensitiveness on the subject of their women. It is found even in European countries that the information as to infirmities is defective; and Bengal is no exception to the rule. There are certain grounds, special to each disease, for doubting the perfect accuracy of the statistics given concerning it. But apart from this it may be said generally that the whole number of afflicted persons is probably somewhat understated in spite of the additions wrongfully made by inattentive enumerators.

General statistics.

464. The statement in the margin gives in a compendious form general information with regard to the afflicted in these provinces. It shows that out of a population of 69,339,627 persons only 270,103, or 38 in 10,000, are afflicted with any one of the four diseases mentioned. Blindness and deaf-mutism seem to be the diseases which are the more prevalent, the proportion of the blind and the deaf-mutes of

No. 57.—Abstract statement giving Statistics for the Infirmities of the People.

Infirmities.	Numbers.			Proportion in 10,000 of the population who are			Number of afflicted females to 100 afflicted males.
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Among males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	
Insane ...	18,336	12,399	30,735	5	3	4	67·62
Blind ...	47,086	50,264	97,350	13	14	14	107·51
Deaf-mutes ...	52,833	32,662	85,495	15	9	12	61·82
Lepers ...	42,283	14,240	56,523	12	4	8	33·67
Total afflicted	*160,538*	*109,565*	*270,103*	*45*	*30*	*38*	*68·24*

both sexes being respectively 14 and 12 in 10,000. As was to be expected, the number of males returned as afflicted is much higher than that of the females, the excess being 50 per cent in their favour. The excess is maintained in every class except that of the blind, where the females are more numerous; and it is most remarkable among the lepers, only one-third of whom are said to be women, as will be explained below. This is above all others the class where concealment would be most rife.

Infirmities in Bengal and elsewhere compared.

465. In the Report on the Census of Bombay in 1881, from which more than one valuable suggestion has already been adopted during the writing of the present Report on the Census of Bengal, a comparative table will be found placing in juxtaposition the infirmity statistics for Bombay and for certain countries outside the Indian empire. The authority for the figures there given is not stated, but the table is so instructive that it has been borrowed, and will be found in the margin with additions which will increase its value.

No. 58.—Statement comparing the Proportions of the Afflicted in Bengal and elsewhere.

Country.	Average number in 10,000 persons who are				
	Insane.	Blind.	Deaf-mutes.	Lepers.	Total afflicted.
Bengal	***4·43***	***14·02***	***12·32***	***8·15***	***38·93***
Bombay	4·71	26·60	7·21	6·13	44·65
Madras	3·25	16·06	5·35	4·77	29·43
North-Western Provinces and Oudh	1·43	29·52	6·34	4·07	41·36
Punjab	4·84	21·67	5·73	2·49	34·73
Central Provinces	2·07	21·87	5·81	5·57	35·32
England and Wales	30·39	9·51	5·07	.....	44·97
France	26·03	8·37	6·26	.....	40·66
Italy	76·40	10·50	7·40	.....	34·30
Belgium	14·29	8·11	4·39	.....	26·79
Holland	.....	4·46	3·35	.....	.....
Germany	22·80	8·79	9·66	.....	41·25
Austria	.....	5·55	9·66	.....	.....
Hungary	20·51	12·01	13·43	.....	45·95
Denmark	21·76	7·86	6·20	.....	35·82
Norway	20·53	13·63	9·22	.....	43·38
Sweden	21·57	8·06	10·23	.....	39·86
Switzerland	29·09	7·61	24·52	.....	61·22
Spain	.....	11·26	6·96	.....	.....
United States	16·07	5·27	4·20	.....	25·54
British Colonies: Canada	16·96	6·19	8·05	.....	31·20
British Colonies: West Indies	11·59	22·41	10·52	.....	44·52
British Colonies: Cape of Good Hope	4·75	12·53	16·01	.....	33·29
British Colonies: Australasia	12·36	3·79	1·83	.....	17·98

Compared with other provinces of India, Bengal stands third in order of the numbers of its afflicted of all classes. It holds the same place with regard to insanity, which would appear to be worst in the Punjab and abnormally low in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. In respect of blindness Bengal is the most favoured of all the provinces in India, having less than half the proportion that is found in the North-Western Provinces. Here, however, its comparative immunity ceases, for it has an excessive number of deaf-mutes and of lepers, exceeding all other provinces in the proportion of those afflicted with these diseases. The remarkable freedom of the Punjab from leprosy is an important feature in the table.

Infirmities in 1872 and 1881.

466. Contrasted with other countries out of India, Bengal, deducting its complement of lepers, takes a very high place, and has a smaller proportion of afflicted persons than any other of the countries mentioned except Australia, Belgium, and the United States of America. This position is entirely due to the small number of insanes, which is also a feature in all the Indian provinces as compared with western nations, the only parallel to the Bengal figures being found at the Cape of Good Hope. The proportion of the blind in Bengal, though so much below the Indian average, is much above that of every foreign country except the West Indies and Norway. It has, however, a much larger proportion of deaf-mutes than any other country except Switzerland, where this infirmity is notoriously very common, and the Cape of Good Hope.

467. The proportions calculated from the returns of the Census of Bengal in 1872 varied considerably from those now obtained, except in respect of the insane, giving in every 10,000 persons 3·06 insane, 7·82 blind, 4·10 deaf-mutes, and 5·49 lepers. The proportion of the blind and the deaf-mutes is now twice and three times as great as it was in 1872; and as this increase is too great to have actually occurred during so short an interval of time, it gives rise to the

suspicion either that many afflicted persons escaped enumeration in 1872, or that many aged persons have now been entered as congenital deaf-mutes or blind from birth who have really only lost their sight and hearing from old age. I may be pardoned for suggesting that the first is the truer explanation.

468. Table XIV gives in full detail, district by district, all that it is necessary to know about the insane in Bengal; and the statement below reproduces much of that information in an abstract form. It should be premised that at the census just taken no attempt was made, as in 1872, to obtain separate statistics for lunatics and idiots. The decision was a wise one, for inasmuch as no distinction is maintained in common native speech between these two conditions of mind, the result of endeavouring to set up such a distinction must have been a repetition of the unreliable figures of 1872. Insanity.

No. 59.—Statement showing the Local Distribution of the Insane and their Proportion in 10,000 *persons of Each Sex and of Both Sexes.*

Division and Province.	Numbers.			Number in 10,000.			Local distribution of every 100 insanes.		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
Burdwan	2,178	1,272	*3,450*	6	3	*4*	11·81	10·25	*11·22*
Presidency	2,728	1,863	*4,591*	6	4	*5*	14·80	15·02	*14·92*
Rajshahye	3,618	2,728	*6,346*	9	7	*8*	19·64	22·00	*20·61*
Dacca	3,191	2,254	*5,445*	7	5	*6*	17·37	18·17	*17·66*
Chittagong	1,396	1,182	*2,578*	3	2	*2*	7·58	9·53	*8·37*
All Bengal Proper ...	*13,111*	*9,299*	*22,410*	*7*	*5*	*6*	*71·27*	*74·99*	*72·77*
Patna	2,039	1,181	*3,220*	2	1	*2*	11·06	9·52	*10·47*
Bhaugulpore...	1,344	833	*2,177*	3	2	*2*	7·30	6·71	*7·06*
All Behar ...	*3,383*	*2,014*	*5,397*	*2*	*1*	*2*	*18·42*	*16·24*	*17·50*
Orissa	*639*	*317*	*956*	*3*	*1*	*2*	*3·47*	*2·55*	*3·10*
Chota Nagpore	*492*	*344*	*836*	*2*	*1*	*1*	*2·67*	*2·77*	*2·71*
All Bengal ...	17,625	11,974	*29,599*	5	3	*4*	95·77	96·57	*96·09*
Feudatory States ...	*711*	*425*	*1,136*	*5*	*3*	*4*	*3·86*	*3·42*	*3·69*
All Bengal, including Feudatory States ...	18,336	12,399	*30,735*	5	3	*4*	100	100	*100*

The statement shows that the number of deranged persons, both absolutely and in comparison with the total population, is highest in the Rajshahye Division. This result is at first sight somewhat remarkable, inasmuch as this is one of the Divisions which does not contain a lunatic asylum; and it might therefore have been expected to show a comparatively small proportion of the insane, since a certain number of the lunatics belonging to the Division would have been placed under restraint elsewhere. These asylums are seven in number, and are situate at Dullunda, Berhampore, and Bhowanipore (Presidency Division); Dacca, Patna, Cuttack (Orissa Division); and Hazaribagh (Chota Nagpore Division): so that the Divisions in which there is no asylum are Burdwan, Rajshahye, Chittagong, and Bhaugulpore. Dacca stands second to Rajshahye, and the Presidency Division takes the third place. In 1872 this order was reversed—Dacca being first, Chittagong second, Patna third, and Rajshahye only fourth. Local distribution.

469. The third part of the statement under examination shows the same facts in another way; for while the second part gives for each Division the average number of the insane in every 10,000 persons of either sex and of both

sexes, in the third part it is shown how many out of 100 insane persons of each sex and of both sexes are contributed by each Division. The Rajshahye Division is the largest contributor both for males, females, and both sexes; and if the district figures are referred to, it will be found that the Rungpore district, in the Rajshahye Division, has the greatest number of insanes, viz. 2,345.

470. The distribution of insanity through the different religions and at different periods of life is clearly shown in the statement which follows:—

No. 60.—Statement showing the Number of Insanes in 10,000 person of the same Age, Sex, and Religion.

Religions.	All Ages.			Under 5.		5 to 9.		10 to 14.		15 to 19.		20 to 29.		30 to 39.		40 to 49.		50 to 59.		Over 60.		Unspecified.	
	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Hindus	4	5	3	...	...	1	1	3	2	5	3	6	2	7	4	7	5	7	5	8	6	43	26
Mahomedans	5	6	4	...	...	3	1	5	4	7	5	7	4	8	6	9	8	9	9	10	9	36	37
Others	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	3	3	2	14	...
All Religions	4	5	3	...	...	2	9	3	2	6	3	7	3	7	4	8	5	8	6	9	7	39	28

471. It shows first of all that in the population of All Religions there are five insane men to every three insane women of all ages in Bengal, and that this proportion is preserved except in the case of Other Religions, where the proportions are equal. How far these proportions represent the actual facts, and how far they are due to the concealment of the fact of derangement of mind in the case of women, is not possible to decide and not easy to speculate. All that can be said is that concealment of the fact of this painful infirmity was anticipated, and that the figures for other countries do not warrant so great an excess of males over females among the insane.

Causes of insanity.

472. Insanity, as is well known, has been divided by scientific observers into two great classes, viz. congenital and acquired—terms which explain themselves. It seems to be beyond doubt that there is no general law connecting the degree of education, or the kind of occupation with a tendency to nervous instability, of which the aggravated form is insanity; but it is equally clear that certain other conditions of life and parentage may bring about a predisposition to nervous disease in the parents which develops into congenital insanity in the children, while acquired insanity may be brought on by a variety of accidental circumstances which are too numerous and too various to afford a basis for any general law. Both kinds of insanity, but especially acquired insanity, are more frequently met with in a highly civilised than in a savage country. In the first place savage life, so long as it is provided with a sufficiency of the necessaries of life, is more healthy than the artificial life of both poor and rich among the members of a fully civilised nation; and general health has more to do with the condition of the brain than is generally supposed. The tension of the nerves is greater among a highly developed than among a comparatively primitive people; and it is beyond doubt that as the latter "come under the influence of civilisation the percentage of lunacy is increased. This is in consonance with the observation of disease, of whatever nature, and is dependent in the case of insanity on the wear and tear of nerve tissue involved in the struggle for existence, the physically depressing effects of pauperism, and on the abuse of alcoholic stimulants." These observations are borne out by the figures given in the preceding paragraphs, for it has been shown that the percentage of insanes in Bengal is vastly smaller than in European countries, and that the proportion of insanes among Hindus and Mahomedans is much greater than among the primitive races, whose religions compose the major part of the group under the general head of Others.

Consanguineous marriage.

473. In the next place it has been asserted that consanguineous marriage is a prolific source of congenital insanity; and though this broad statement seems to require a qualification, there is much in the figures of the census to support it.

In the first place, to employ the negative method of argument, it may be pointed out that consanguineous marriage is most carefully avoided by Hindus and by their imitators, the aboriginal tribes, and that the percentage of insanes is very small in those communities. On the other hand, it is not so strictly condemned by the Mahomedans, who return a larger proportion of insanes than the followers of any other religion. If this is the true solution of their prominence in this direction, it will help to account for the comparatively great prevalence of unsoundness of mind in the Rajshahye and Dacca Divisions.

General ill health.

474. But another suggestion may be hazarded to account for the excess in the statistics of insanity in these Divisions. "The morbid condition of the general system which most frequently implicates the brain," says a well known writer, "is anæmia, not itself a disease, but the result of many diseases, such as fever, and of such drains on the constitution as lactation and imperfect nourishment." The application of this theory to the population of the Rajshahye and Dacca Divisions will be obvious. Most of the districts of the Rajshahye Division have a reputation for unhealthiness, which is greatest in Rungpore, where the proportion of insanity is so high, and the insalubrity of which has passed into a proverb.

Drugs and spirits.

475. To one toxic agent, which is a prolific source of brain disease, viz. the excessive use of alcoholic and narcotic stimulants, the people of Bengal are comparatively little exposed. The country-liquor which is distilled and offered for sale is not sufficiently potent to induce affection of the brain; and though the excessive drinking of imported spirits has been charged against certain classes of the community, especially in Lower Bengal, the vice has not yet spread sufficiently far to affect the provincial statistics of insanity. The consumption of opium and *ganja* (a preparation of hemp), however, while it is much more widely spread in certain parts of these provinces than the custom of drinking, has at the same time a much more deleterious effect upon them. It seems likely, indeed, that the use of *ganja* has much to do with the excessive insanity in the Rajshahye and Dacca Divisions. The former Division is the home of ganja cultivation, and the figures of excise revenue in these provinces for many years show that it is in those Divisions that ganja is most largely consumed, almost to the exclusion of the much less harmful country spirit. In the Presidency, Burdwan, and Bhaugulpore Divisions the taste for spirits and drugs is about equal; in those of Patna and Chotá Nagpore the propensity of the people is to drink country spirit and to eschew drugs: but in Orissa, where the drug is opium, and in the Rajshahye, Dacca, and Chittagong Divisions, where ganja is in favour, there is a marked preference for drugs. In the Rajshahye Division the revenue from drugs is Rs. 52 per 1,000 inhabitants, as against Rs. 20 from country spirits; in Dacca the revenue from drugs is Rs. 51 per 1,000, and that from country spirits is Rs. 20; while in the Chittagong Division the proportions are Rs. 47 from drugs and Rs. 11 from country spirit. There can be no doubt that the correspondence between the excess of insanity in these Divisions and the strong preference of their inhabitants for drugs is more than a mere coincidence, and it is to be hoped that the point will receive the further attention of the excise authorities.

Cretinism.

476. Lastly, it should be noticed that the figures for insanes include those for *cretins*. *Cretinism* is a form of congenital insanity which is endemic in many mountainous countries, and is familiar to all travellers in Switzerland from its almost universal association with goitre. The latter disease is common in parts of the Himalayas, and in the northern districts of Bengal which lie at the foot of those mountains, while it is endemic in Rungpore. Where goitre is so common, the existence of *cretinism* must be suspected; and it seems very likely that its occurrence raises the figures for insanes in the parts of Bengal just named.

Age and religion of the insane.

477. No general conclusions can be drawn from the age figures in the foregoing statement, because so large a proportion of the whole are returned as of unspecified age. These are, for the most part, persons in confinement, who were obviously incapable of stating their own age, and who were absent from relatives who might have supplied the necessary information. It would appear, however, from the gradually increasing ratio of the insane at each period, that those who have been returned as insane are for the most part suffering merely from

senile amentia, and that insanity in Bengal is of the acquired rather than of the congenital type. Were not this the case, there would be a larger proportion of demented persons during the earlier years of life; and it is a significant fact that whereas in the class of Other Religions the insane children under 15 years of age are not above 1 in 10,000, the proportion of insane children of the same age is 13 in 10,000 among the Mahomedans, whose indifference to the evils of consanguineous marriage has already been referred to.

The blind.

478. The following statement gives in the form already adopted for the persons of unsound mind statistics for the blind abstracted from the more detailed Table No. XV:—

No. 61.—*Statement showing the Local Distribution of the Blind and their Proportion in* 10,000 *persons of Each Sex and of Both Sexes.*

Division and Province.	Numbers.			Number in 10,000.			Local distribution of every 100 Blind Persons.		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
Burdwan	4,908	5,679	*10,587*	13	14	*14*	10·42	11·27	*10·86*
Presidency	4,776	4,243	*9,019*	11	10	*10*	10·14	8·43	*9·26*
Rajshahye	4,556	4,177	*8,733*	11	10	*11*	9·67	8·30	*8·96*
Dacca	4,682	3,623	*8,305*	10	8	*9*	9·94	7·20	*8·52*
Chittagong	2,159	2,045	*4,204*	5	4	*4*	4·58	4·06	*4·31*
All Bengal Proper...	*21,081*	*19,767*	*40,848*	*11*	*11*	*11*	*44·76*	*39·29*	*41·93*
Patna	14,336	16,740	*31,076*	19	21	*20*	30·42	33·28	*31·90*
Bhaugulpore	5,697	6,537	*12,234*	14	16	*15*	12·09	12·98	*12·56*
All Behar	*20,033*	*23,277*	*43,310*	*17*	*19*	*18*	*42·54*	*46·26*	*44·46*
Orissa	*1,984*	*2,422*	*4,406*	*10*	*12*	*11*	*4·21*	*4·81*	*4·52*
Chota Nagpore	*2,481*	*3,190*	*5,671*	*11*	*14*	*13*	*5·26*	*6·34*	*5·82*
All Bengal	45,579	48,656	*94,235*	13	13	*14*	96·75	96·73	*96·74*
Feudatory States... ...	*1,507*	*1,608*	*3,115*	*10*	*11*	*11*	*3·20*	*3·19*	*3·19*
All Bengal, including Feudatory States.	47,086	50,264	*97,350*	13	14	*14*	100	100	*100*

Local distribution.

479. Blindness in Bengal, as in other parts of the world, is the most prevalent of the four diseases of which statistics have been collected at the late census; and its general prevalence is well indicated by the small range (with one exception) of the variations between the extremes in each Division. In the whole province the blind of both sexes amount to 14 in every 10,000 of the population, the females being 14 and the males 13 in every 10,000 persons of either sex. The highest proportion for males, for females, and for both sexes is to be found in the Patna Division, where 20 persons of both sexes are blind, and the lowest is in the Chittagong Division, where only 4 persons in 10,000 have lost their eyesight. Putting aside, however, this unusually small proportion, the Dacca Division, with 9, has the lowest place on the list. The proportion of blind males is higher than that of blind females in every Division but those of Patna, Bhaugulpore, Orissa, the Feudatory States, and Chota Nagpore, where the disproportion of females is greatest. The second series of comparative figures corroborates these conclusions, and shows that more than 30 per cent of all the blind are in the Patna Division, while the smallest number absolutely and comparatively is to be found in the Feudatory States.

480. Looking next to the statistics of blindness in combination with age and religion, the following table will show that the disease is most prevalent among the Hindus and least common among the persons returned as of Other Religions:— Age and religion of the blind.

No. 62.—Statement showing the Proportion of the Blind in 10,000 persons of the same Age, Sex, and Religion.

Religions.	All Ages.			Under 5.		5 to 9.		10 to 14.		15 to 19.		20 to 29.		30 to 39.		40 to 49.		50 to 59.		Over 60.		Unspecified.	
	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Hindus	15	15	16	4	2	7	4	8	5	9	6	9	7	10	10	16	17	29	35	101	114	72	72
Mahomedans	11	11	11	2	1	4	2	5	3	7	4	7	4	9	7	15	14	26	29	86	84	55	66
Others	3	2	3	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	4	4	6	10	23	24	57	...
All Religions	13	13	14	3	2	6	3	7	4	8	5	8	6	10	9	15	16	28	32	94	104	67	67

481. The disease seems to grow with age, since, with few exceptions, the progressive age periods show an increasing proportion of blind persons; and it is likely that the persons of unspecified age, among whom the blind bear so large a proportion, belong to the later years of life.

482. In European nations the proportion of the blind is usually about 10 in 10,000, or a good deal less than the average in Bengal. For this excess two or three explanations can be offered. In the first place the excess may be fictitious only. At the recent census it was decided that no efforts should be made to separate those who were suffering from congenital blindness from those whose blindness was acquired in later life. But at the same time every effort was made to confine entries to those who were totally blind, and to exclude those who were merely of feeble sight or blind of one eye only. Accordingly the clearest instructions were issued that only those should be entered as blind who were blind of both eyes. Nevertheless, it is to be feared that a certain percentage of error must be allowed for those who have been wrongly entered as blind in despite of these orders. On the other hand, it is extremely likely that in India the proportion of the blind is really larger than in Europe. Glare, heat, dirt, huts filled with fetid and pungent smoke, and the attacks of small-pox, are all conditions which are injurious to the sight and prevail largely in these provinces, while many of them are absent in European countries. They seem to be combined to the greatest extent in the province of Behar just mentioned, where the fierce hot winds of the summer months are laden with dust and sand, and where the glare over the parched earth is excessive. In that province, morever, inhabited as it is partly by a very ignorant peasantry and partly by Hindus of good caste and strong prejudices, vaccination has made but little progress. In 1880-81 out of 1,394,312 vaccinations performed only 14,336 were performed in the Behar circle, which, in spite of its large population, thus takes the lowest place of all. In the following year 1,349,607 vaccinations were performed, of which 14,677 were in Behar, and it was surpassed in the fewness of its operations only by the small circle which contains the Suburbs of Calcutta. In Eastern Bengal, on the other hand, where the Mahomedans predominate, and where no caste prejudices intervene, the vaccinations were as many as 294,540 in 1880-81 and 288,929 in 1881-82. It will be noticed in this connection that the blind of both sexes in the Chittagong Division only number 4 in 10,000. Causes of blindnes.

483. Blindness is not an infirmity which it is in any way shameful to admit; and the belief that the general charge of concealment is less likely to be true in this than in other cases is strengthened by the fact that the number of blind women is greater than that of the blind men. On the whole it may be concluded that the statistics of the blind possess a fair accuracy, the omissions being made up for by the wrongful entries of the partially blind.

Deaf-mutism.

484. The cardinal error which has to be guarded against in collecting statistics of the deaf and dumb is that of including among them those who are deaf only; and it is only with the greatest possible care that this error can be avoided. Bengal, fortunately, is not so liable to this, because the infirmity is so well known that it is habitually described by a single word, which denotes the joint existence of these two conditions. Moreover, in the instructions to enumerators it was particularly laid down that only those were to be returned as deaf and dumb who have been so afflicted from birth, since, with very few exceptions, which are the result of accidents, deaf-mutism is congenital. A scrutiny of the age tables below will show that the afflicted are very evenly distributed through the various age periods, and that although the aged are certainly largely afflicted, this proportion is not so excessive as it would have been had there been any general disregard of the instructions issued.

485. The table below gives in a condensed form some of the statistics in Table XVI.

No. 63.—*Statement showing the Local Distribution of the Deaf-mutes and their Proportion in* 10,000 *persons of Each Sex and of Both Sexes.*

Division and Province.	Numbers.			Number in 10,000.			Local distribution of every 100 Deaf-mutes.		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes
Burdwan	5,039	3,637	*8,676*	13	9	*11*	9·52	11·19	*10·14*
Presidency	4,332	2,765	*7,100*	10	6	*8*	8·19	8·46	*8·30*
Rajshahye	6,477	4,154	*10,631*	16	10	*13*	12·23	12·71	*12·43*
Dacca	4,275	2,760	*7,035*	9	6	*8*	8·08	8·44	*8·22*
Chittagong	2,143	1,429	*3,572*	4	3	*4*	4·05	4·37	*4·17*
All Bengal Proper ...	***22,266***	***14,748***	***37,014***	***12***	***8***	***10***	***42·08***	***45·08***	***43·29***
Patna	17,160	9,882	*27,042*	23	12	*17*	32·45	30·22	*31·62*
Bhaugulpore	7,640	4,596	*12,326*	19	11	*15*	14·45	14·06	*14·31*
All Behar ...	***24,800***	***14,478***	***39,278***	***21***	***12***	***16***	***46·89***	***44·26***	***45·93***
Orissa	***2,351***	***1,345***	***3,696***	***12***	***7***	***9***	***4·44***	***4·11***	***4·32***
Chota Nagpore	***1,911***	***1,268***	***3,179***	***9***	***5***	***7***	***3·61***	***3·87***	***3·71***
All Bengal ...	51,328	31,839	*83,167*	15	8	*12*	97·03	97·35	*97·26*
Feudatory States ...	***1,505***	***823***	***2,328***	***10***	***6***	***8***	***2·84***	***2·51***	***2·72***
All Bengal, including Feudatory States ...	***52,833***	***32,662***	***85,495***	***15***	***9***	***12***	***100***	***100***	***100***

Causes of variation in local distribution.

486. The greatest proportion of deaf-mutes, it will be seen, was found in the Patna Division, where they were as many as 17 in 10,000 of the population, or 1 to 588 persons; Bhaugulpore standing next with 15 (1 in 666), and the Rajshahye Division third with 13 (1 in 769). The latter is the exact proportion found in Sardinia, which has for its size more deaf-mutes than any other European country, and is far higher than the mean of non-Asiatic countries. The Chittagong Division, with only 4 in 10,000 (1 in 2,500), enjoys the greatest immunity, and is more favoured than the United States (1 in 2,338) and the best European country, Belgium, which has 1 in 2,226. It will be observed that two out of these four Divisions also took a prominent place in the statistics of the insane and the blind. Rajshahye, which is now third, was first with the greatest proportion of the demented, and Dacca was second, while Patna was fourth. It seems remarkable that such different results should be recorded in respect to diseases which have so much in common as dementia,

especially in its idiotic form) and deaf-mutism, and possibly there has been to some small extent a misrepresentation of the real facts. The distinction between a deaf-mute and an idiot is frequently very slight, and it is likely to have been overlooked by the enumerators as an unimportant refinement. Both diseases have many predisposing causes in common; those of unsoundness of mind have already been recited, and the causes assigned for congenital deafness (which in almost every case produces the consequent dumbness instead of being merely accompanied by it) are consanguineous marriages, hereditary transmission, weak constitutions of parents, scrofula, climate, and the ill-health of the mother at a certain period of life. None of these conditions are unusually marked in the Patna Division, unless it be that the constitution of the parents is weak owing to the extreme proverty of a great portion of the people, or to some conditions of climate or diet which are not apparent.

487. Had the element of consanguineous marriage been a potent factor, the facts which the following table shows would have been of an opposite character:—

No. 64.—Statement showing the Proportion of Deaf-mutes in 10,000 *persons of the same Age, Sex, and Religion.*

Religions.	All Ages.			Under 5.		5 to 9.		10 to 14.		15 to 19.		20 to 29.		30 to 39.		40 to 49.		50 to 59.		60 and over.		Unspecified.	
	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Hindus	13	16	9	5	3	12	7	16	10	18	9	16	7	16	8	19	11	24	16	40	25	40	30
Mahomedans	11	14	9	4	3	11	10	14	10	16	9	15	8	14	9	17	11	22	14	30	20	69	49
Others	3	3	2	2	...	3	2	3	4	4	3	4	2	4	2	5	4	7	3	12	7	14	62
All Religions	12	15	9	4	3	11	7	15	10	17	9	15	7	15	8	18	11	23	15	36	23	47	37

488. Here it would seem that the Hindus suffer most from this disability, and yet it is they who are most averse to unions of this character. In this dilemma nothing can be done but to leave the question for further enquiry; but it may make the question plainer if the various divisions are ranked in order of their mean proportion of the insane, and the deaf and dumb.

Division.	Number of insanes and deaf-mutes in 10,000 of the population.
Rajshahye	21
Patna	19
Bhaugulpore	17
Burdwan	15
Dacca	14
Presidency	13
Feudatory States ...	12
Orissa	11
Chota Nagpore	8
Chittagong	6

489. In respect of the sex proportions of the deaf and dumb, there can be little doubt that the number of females has been considerably understated. There would seem, according to the figures, to be 15 males in the whole population afflicted to 9 females; and this excess is apparent in all religions except that comprehensively described as "Others," and at almost every period of life. The disease being congenital, there is no ground for supposing that it is more likely to be exhibited in one sex than in the other, and the excess of males must be ascribed to concealment of its occurrence among the females of a family.

490. The figures for age justify the suggestion that there has been some error in returning as deaf-mutes those who are only afflicted with senile difficulty of hearing; but, as already remarked in a previous paragraph, the distribution in each age period is better than might have been expected, and the figures for the first two periods, especially in the principal religions, show that parents in India have the same aversion as parents elsewhere to admitting the deafness of their children till continued silence up to an age when most children have long since learned to speak removes all possibility of further self-deception.

Leprosy.

491. Two different types of this disease, both known by the generic name of leprosy, exist in India. The first, or white leprosy, is a mere discoloration of the skin, and is perfectly anæsthetic; the second, which is known as black, or tubercular leprosy, is of a corrosive character, first attacking and destroying the extremities, while it induces functional disorders of a grave kind. Both are incurable, and both, it is said, contagious. Of the first kind the statistics of

the census take no heed, as the enumerators were specially enjoined to return as lepers only those who were afflicted with the graver disease.

492. The abstract given below shows, as in the case of other infirmities, the absolute numbers returned as afflicted with this dreadful disease, their number in 10,000 of the population of each Division, and the percentage which each Division contains of the whole company of the diseased.

No. 65.—Statement showing the Local Distribution of the Lepers and their Proportion in 10,000 *persons of Each Sex and of Both Sexes.*

Division.	Numbers.			No. in 10,000.			Local Distribution of every 100 Lepers.		
	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
Burdwan	10,363	4,063	*14,426*	28	10	*19*	24·55	28·52	*25·50*
Presidency...	4,231	1,402	*5,633*	10	3	*6*	10·00	9·84	*9·95*
Rajshahye	5,405	1,765	*7,170*	13	4	*9*	12·78	12·39	*12·68*
Dacca	3,698	1,236	*4,934*	8	2	*5*	8·74	8·66	*8·71*
Chittagong...	1,002	471	*1,473*	2	1	*1*	2·36	3·30	*2·60*
All Bengal Proper * ...	*24,699*	*8,937*	*33,636*	*13*	*5*	*9*	*51·41*	*62·68*	*59·44*
Patna	7,035	1,308	*8,343*	9	1	*5*	16·63	9·17	*14·73*
Bhaugulpore	3,846	1,214	*5,060*	9	3	*6*	9·09	8·52	*8·94*
All Behar ...	*10,881*	*2,522*	*13,403*	*9*	*2*	*5*	*25·73*	*17·70*	*23·69*
Orissa	*3,485*	*1,176*	*4,661*	*18*	*6*	*12*	*8·24*	*8·25*	*8·23*
Chota Nagpore	*1,419*	*855*	*2,274*	*6*	*4*	*5*	*3·35*	*6·00*	*4·01*
All Bengal ...	40,484	13,490	*53,974*	12	3	*8*	95·72	94·66	*95·41*
Feudatory States	*1,799*	*750*	*2,549*	*12*	*5*	*9*	*4·25*	*5·25*	*4·50*
All Bengal, including Feudatory States	42,283	14,240	*56,523*	12	4	*8*	100	100	*100*

493. It will be observed in the first place that according to these figures the number of lepers of the male sex is three times as great as that of the female lepers, the men being 12 and the women 4 in 10,000 of either sex. No grounds exist for believing that the male sex is more liable to leprous attacks than the female ; but on the other hand there is every reason to suppose that the number of female lepers has been very much understated in the return. The disease itself is a painful and disgusting one, and makes its victim a source of danger and an object of aversion to others. Hence the great sensitiveness which every respectable native feels in speaking of the female members of his family is aggravated by a sentiment of shame in the admission that any of them are suffering from a loathsome disease. Special enquiries were made in the district of Rungpore in the year 1876 by Dr. Ghose, Civil Surgeon of the district, and his conclusion was that there was great concealment of female lepers. His estimate was so low as one female for every two male lepers; but there is no reason why their numbers should not be taken as equal. If this be admitted, the total of lepers in Bengal rises to 84,566, or 12 in 10,000 of the whole population. Moreover, as Dr. Ghose very pertinently remarks, it is almost certain that only the confirmed lepers, *i.e.* those in whom the disease was fully developed, were entered as lepers by the enumerators; but in the enquiry just alluded to it was found that to every confirmed leper there were at least three others with symptoms not so strongly marked, but nevertheless incurably affected with the disease. If this estimate is accepted, we shall find that the number of lepers in Bengal is more than 250,000, or 36 in every 10,000 of the people.

494. Taking the figures as they stand, however, it will be noticed that the Burdwan Division takes the first place, as possessing a greater number of lepers,

both male and female, than any other Division; and a reference to Table XVII will show that they are numerous in every district of the Division except Hooghly and Howrah. Besides these districts the numbers are absolutely large in Nuddea, Moorshedabad, Rungpore, Mymensingh, Gya, and Cuttack; but they nowhere approach the proportions of Bankoorah, where the lepers are 37·21 in 10,000, or of Beerbhoom (32·76) and Burdwan (29·58). In Bankoorah leprosy is endemic, and the same must be said of the other two districts just named. In parts of Rungpore also, where it affects 14·96 persons in 10,000, Dr. Ghose reports it to exist in an endemic form. The European type of the disease is said to have been imported from the valley of the Nile, but what the origin of the Indian disease is has not yet been ascertained. It is also still a matter of opinion how far it is contagious. It is, however, admitted that conditions of life inimical to general health also predispose to the onset of this disease. Dr. Ghose found that in those parts of Rungpore where leprosy was most prevalent the soil was almost pure alluvial deposit with occasional tract of sandy loams; marshes and old river-beds abounded, most of the country was flooded during the rains, and it contained many patches of high and dense jungle. The people themselves were badly housed, clothed, and fed, living in mat huts, and consuming little else but rice and mperfectly cured fish; they seldom left their homes, and intermarried very fre ly. They suffered greatly from malarious diseases of all kinds, pulmonary phthisis and scrofula being very common, while goitre and cholera were endemic. The picture, in short, is that of a poor people of low vitality living under conditions most hostile to health. The same description might apply to parts of the Burdwan district, and in a less degree to parts of those of Bankoorah and Beerbhoom, in all of which the general health of the population has been much impaired by the fever whch ravaged that Division. But parts of Bankoorah and Beerbhoom are high and free from malaria; while the fish diet, which is sometimes insisted upon as a cause of leprosy, must be without effect there, as there are few or no marshes and tanks, and fish is comparatively rare as an article of food. It should be remarked in respect of the fish diet theory that the eastern districts of Bengal, where fish is necessarily plentiful and cheap, have comparatively few lepers.

Cause of variation in local distribution

495. The age and religion figures in the following abstract seem fairly accurate, with the exception that they understate the proportion of female lepers. The disease would seem to be worst among the Hindus, who, it may be remarked, are most exposed to the evil effects, if any, of the fish diet, since animal food is forbidden them. That the larger proportion are found in the later years of life is consistent with the fact that leprosy seldom develops itself in infancy.

No. 66.—*Statement showing the Proportion of Lepers in* 10,000 *persons of the same Age, Sex, and Religion*

Religions.	All Ages.			Under 5.		5 to 9.		10 to 14.		15 to 19.		20 to 29.		30 to 39.		40 to 49.		50 to 59.		60 & over		Unspecified.	
	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Hindus	9	13	4	...	...	1	...	3	1	7	3	12	4	22	6	31	8	34	10	34	10	30	16
Mahomedans	6	10	3	...	...	1	...	2	1	5	2	8	2	17	4	25	7	30	8	28	9	36	23
Others ...	2	3	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	3	3	3	2	5	2	7	3	9	3	11	3	14	...
All Religions	8	12	4	...	...	1	...	2	1	7	3	11	3	20	5	29	8	32	9	32	10	31	17

CHAPTER XIV.

CONCLUSION.

496. In conclusion I have only to place on record my obligations to the officers with whom it has been my pleasing duty to be associated in the carrying out of the important operations now brought to a close with the submission of this report. That district officers and their subordinates should willingly and heartily accept the great additional labour and responsibility which the census operations cast upon them, and devote themselves to the task with energy, is only in accordance with the history of British administration in India in general, and with the traditions of the Bengal Civil Service in particular. There was hardly a district or subdivision where the most earnest efforts were not made to carry out the instructions received from Government through my instrumentality and to ensure the complete success of the census; and where the co-operation of all was so hearty, it seems invidious to mention by name any officers who merit the special thanks of Government. Nevertheless, I should deserve the charge of ingratitude if I did not take this opportunity of conveying my thanks to Mr. A. P. MacDonnell, Collector of Sarun, and to Mr. W. B. Oldham, Deputy Commissioner of the Sonthal Pergunnahs, whose census work, difficult enough as it was in so difficult a district, was aggravated by the hostile attitude of the Sonthals. Mr. J. Boxwell's arrival in Durbhunga assured the success of the census there, which frequent changes of the *personnel* had somewhat endangered. Mr. J. Anderson completely devoted himself to the census of Bankoorah, and Mr. Barton to that of Jessore. The Deputy Commissioners of the Non-Regulation Districts, especially the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and those in the Chota Nagpore Division, carried through their peculiarly difficult task with success. Major Ramsay of the Bengal Police was untiring in his labours in the Patna district, as was the late Mr. Parry Davis in that of Hooghly. To Mr. H. A. D. Phillips, who had a large share in the conduct of the census of Burdwan, is due much of the success which it achieved; and Mr. C. E. Buckland, though his district, Howrah, was a small one, was most successful in the method and accuracy with which he superintended its enumeration. Lastly, though the Commissioners of Divisions were spared the labour of actually supervising census work, I am much indebted to Lord Ulick Browne and to Mr. Edgar, C.S.I., for their assistance on various occasions, and to Mr. Beames, Commissioner of Burdwan, for his assistance and advice in arranging the castes of Orissa.

497. The co-operation of these and other gentlemen has rendered possible what would have been an impossible task without it; for not only did they carry out the enumeration of their districts, but after the census had been taken they were ever ready to render any assistance and furnish any information in their power. The census of 1881 is now over; it has been a work of greater magnitude than any one could have foreseen. But the deliberate conviction it leaves in my mind is that the enumeration was admirably conducted, that errors of omission or double enumeration were infinitesimal, and that the statements which are now laid before Government and the public possess an accuracy on all material points which could hardly have been anticipated, and which is fairly surprising when consideration is given to the difficulties which have had to be overcome.

J. A. BOURDILLON.

CALCUTTA,
The 30th April 1883.

REPORT

ON THE

CENSUS OF BENGAL, 1881.

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No. 1.

CENSUS OF BENGAL, 1881.

DIAGRAM SHOWING THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION BY RELIGION.

Census of Bengal, 1881.

Table showing the Proportion per cent. of the Total Population

Of each District, Division, and Province

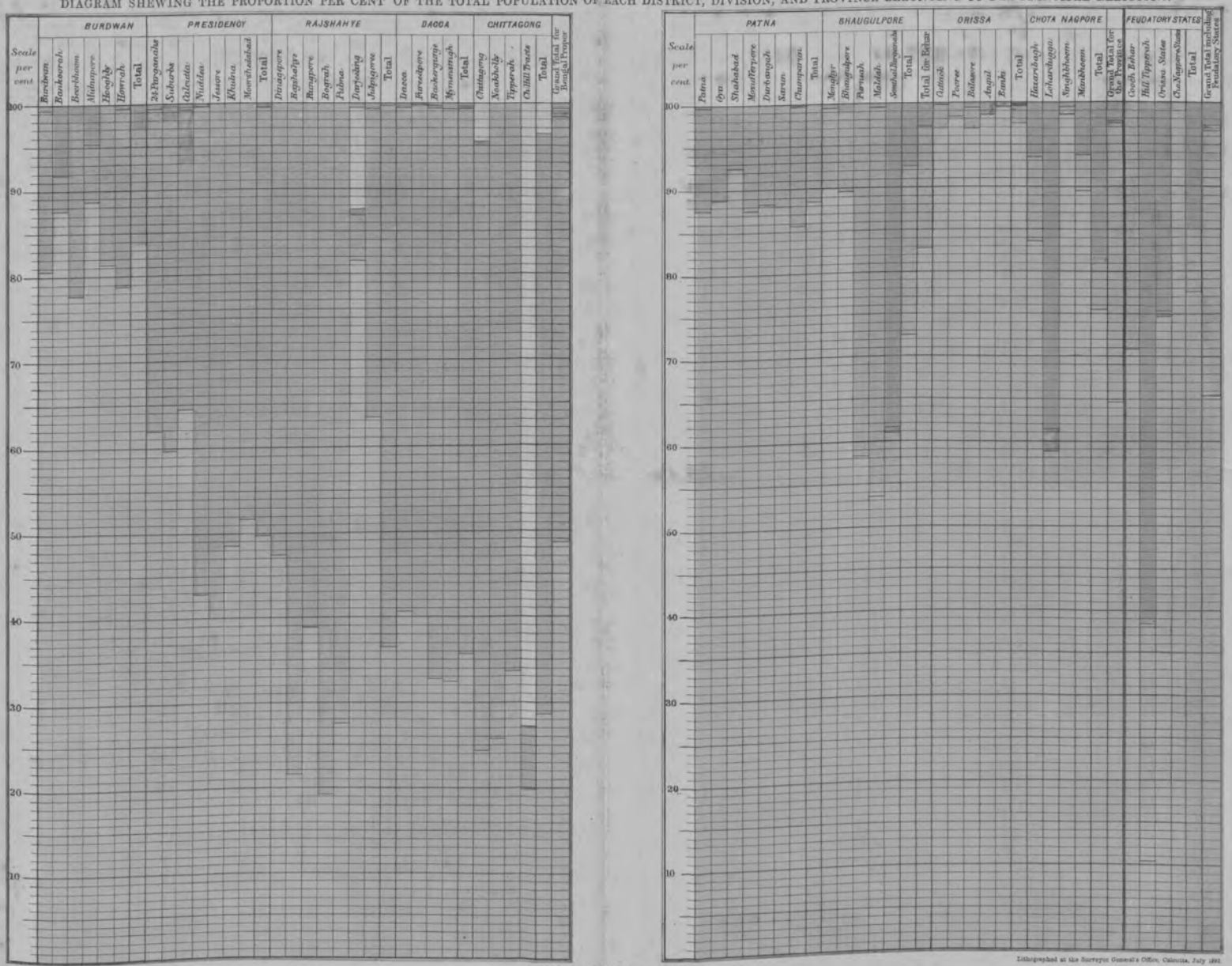
BELONGING TO THE PRINCIPAL RELIGIONS.

DISTRICT, DIVISION, AND PROVINCE.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.	Christians.	Buddhists.	All others.
BENGAL.					
Burdwan	80·51	18·95	·06	.....	·46
Bankoorah	87·43	4·44	.....	.....	8·11
Beerbhoom	77·70	20·47	.....	.....	1·81
Midnapore	88·78	6·51	·02	.....	4·66
Hooghly	81·25	18·64	·06	·02	.....
Howrah	78·82	20·79	·32	.....	·04
Burdwan Division ...	*83·96*	*12·95*	*·06*	.....	*3·01*
24-Pergunnahs	61·98	37·36	·61	·01	·02
Suburbs	59·62	38·41	1·60	·05	·29
Calcutta	64·34	28·72	6·10	·36	·46
Nuddea	42·85	56·82	·31	.....	.....
Jessore	40·03	59·93	·03	.....	.....
Khulna	48·48	51·44	·06	.....	.....
Moorshedabad	51·74	48·08	·03	.....	·12
Presidency Division ...	*49·80*	*49·52*	*·59*	*·02*	*·05*
Dinagepore	47·32	52·55	·03	.....	·09
Rajshahye	21·57	78·41	.....	.....	.....
Rungpore	38·92	60·99	.....	.....	·08
Bogra	19·18	80·80	.....	.....	.....
Pubna	27·55	72·41	.....	.....	·01
Darjeeling	81·65	5·28	·54	12·09	·41
Julpigoree	63·25	35·85	.....	·08	·77
Rajshahye Division ...	*36·44*	*63·16*	*·02*	*·24*	*·10*
Dacca	40·47	59·09	·41	.....	.....
Furreedpore	40·07	59·75	·16	.....	.....
Backergunge	32·85	66·68	·19	·25	.....
Mymensingh	32·35	66·79	.....	.....	·85
Dacca Division	*35·88*	*63·57*	*·17*	*·05*	*·30*
Chittagong	24·30	70·82	·09	4·77	.....
Noakholly	25·76	74·15	·07	·01	.....
Tipperah	33·63	66·32	·01	·02	.....
Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	19·96	7·17	.....	72·80	.....
Chittagong Division ...	*28·48*	*67·86*	*·05*	*3·59*	.....
ALL BENGAL PROPER ...	*48·45*	*50·16*	*·20*	*·43*	*·73*

DISTRICT, DIVISION, AND PROVINCE.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.	Christians.	Buddhists.	All others.
BEHAR.					
Patna	87·71	12·13	·14	.....	.....
Gya	89·02	10·97	.....	.....	.....
Shahabad	92·51	7·46	·01	.....	.....
Mozufferpore	87·73	12·25	·01	.....	.....
Durbhunga	88·24	11·73	·01	.....	.....
Sarun	88·18	11·80	·01	.....	.....
Chumparun	85·79	14·09	·11	.....	.....
Patna Division	*88·47*	*11·48*	*·03*	.....	.....
Monghyr	90·06	9·51	·05	.....	·36
Bhaugulpore	89·73	9·43	·02	.....	·80
Purneah	58·23	41·71	·01	.....	·03
Maldah	53·35	46·38	.....	.....	·24
Southal Pergunnahs ...	54·05	6·94	·19	.....	38·79
Bhaugulpore Division ...	*72·44*	*19·62*	*·06*	.....	*7·85*
ALL BEHAR	*82·88*	*14·32*	*·04*	.....	*2·74*
ORISSA.					
Cuttack	97·09	2·71	·13	.....	·05
Pooree	98·33	1·57	·09	.....	.....
Balasore	96·88	2·51	·08	.....	·51
Angul	98·49	·26	.....	.....	1·23
Banki	99·50	·47	·02	.....	.....
ALL ORISSA	*97·40*	*2·29*	*·10*	.....	*·18*
CHOTA NAGPORE.					
Hazaribagh	83·71	9·60	·04	.....	6·63
Lohardugga	53·99	4·80	2·25	.....	38·94
Singbhoom	98·68	·51	·65	.....	·14
Manbhoom	89·41	4·29	·05	.....	6·23
ALL CHOTA NAGPORE ...	*75·43*	*5·47*	*·95*	.....	*18·14*
THE WHOLE PROVINCE ...	*64·84*	*32·22*	*·19*	*·23*	*2·50*
FEUDATORY STATES.					
Cooch Behar	70·93	23·96	.....	.....	·09
Hill Tipperah	10·22	28·18	·11	.....	61·47
Tributary States, Orissa	74·82	·38	·03	·03	24·72
Ditto, Chota Nagpore	98·98	·66	·01	.....	·33
ALL FEUDATORY STATES	*77·58*	*7·44*	*·02*	*·01*	*14·92*
THE WHOLE PROVINCE INCLUDING FEUDATORY STATES	*65·36*	*31·21*	*·18*	*·22*	*3·01*

CENSUS OF BENGAL, 1881.

DIAGRAM SHEWING THE PROPORTION PER CENT OF THE TOTAL POPULATION OF EACH DISTRICT, DIVISION, AND PROVINCE BELONGING TO THE PRINCIPAL RELIGIONS.



Lithographed at the Surveyor General's Office, Calcutta, July 1881.

EXPLANATION OF THE COLOURS.

Hindus. Mahomedans. Christians. Buddhists. All others.

No. 2.

CENSUS OF BENGAL, 1881.

DIAGRAM SHOWING THE EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENTS OF THE POPULATION.

Census of Bengal, 1881.

Table showing for each District, Division, and Province

The Percentage of the Male Population of different Religions five years old and upwards,

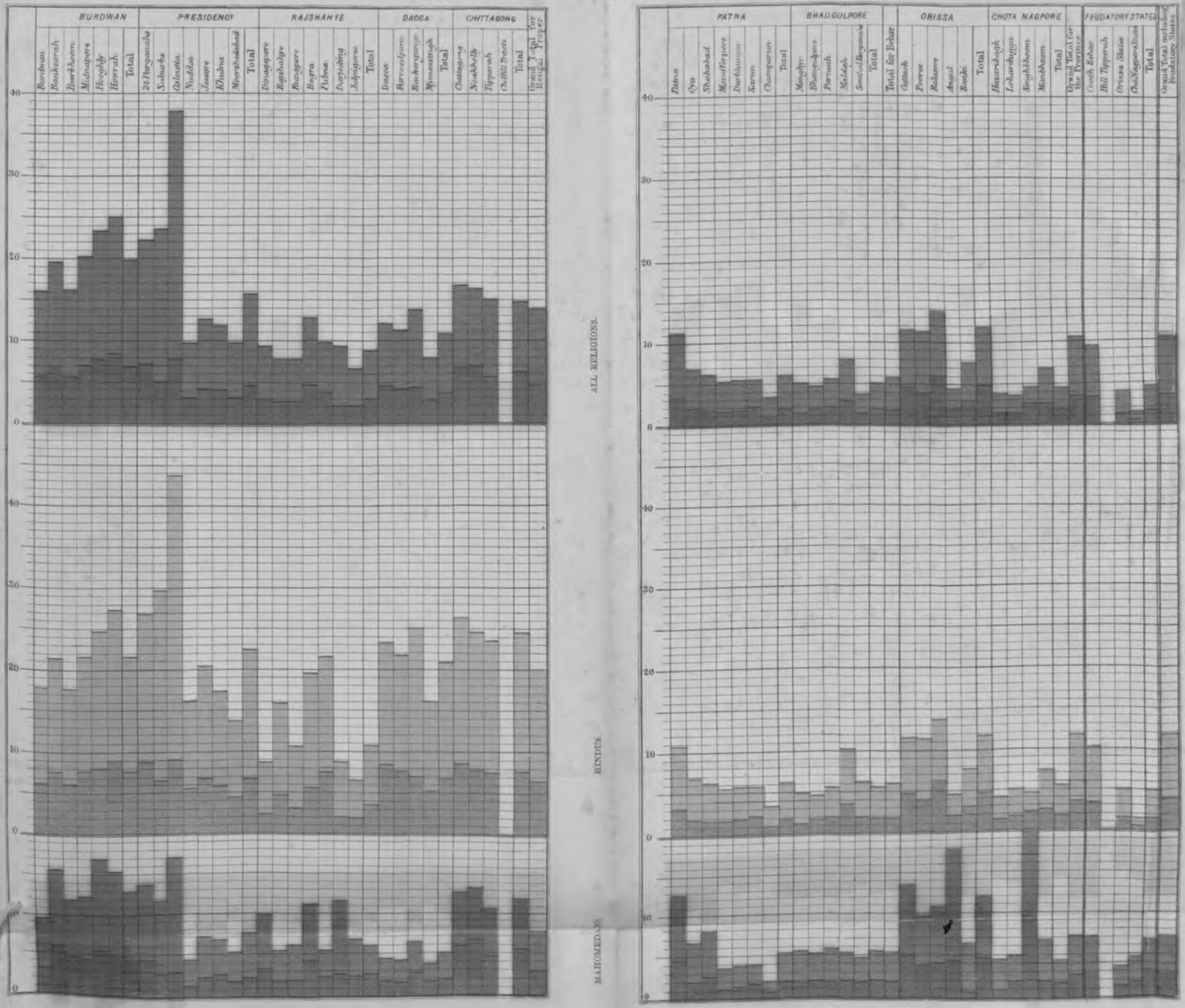
WHO ARE (1) UNDER INSTRUCTION OR (2) ABLE TO READ AND WRITE.

DISTRICT, DIVISION, AND PROVINCE.	All Religions.		Hindus.		Mahomedans.	
	Under instruction.	Not under instruction but able to read and write.	Under instruction.	Not under instruction but able to read and write.	Under instruction.	Not under instruction but able to read and write.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BENGAL.						
Burdwan	5·52	10·54	6·12	11·59	3·09	6·32
Bankoorah	7·04	12·46	7·69	13·69	5·84	9·70
Beerbhoom	5·69	10·43	6·08	11·48	4·67	7·26
Midnapore	7·12	13·05	7·65	14·03	4·36	7·92
Hooghly	7·66	15·72	8·13	16·57	5·42	11·66
Howrah	8·32	16·74	9·13	18·20	4·96	10·33
Burdwan Division ...	*6·84*	*12·91*	*7·41*	*13·97*	*4·41*	*8·49*
24-Pergunnahs	7·14	15·00	8·77	18·08	4·31	9·54
Suburbs	5·17	18·31	6·41	23·16	2·66	9·19
Calcutta	7·71	29·95	9·14	34·58	2·82	14·19
Nuddea	3·14	6·47	5·39	10·71	1·36	2·98
Jessore	4·12	8·36	6·74	13·64	2·36	4·82
Khulna	4·04	7·78	5·71	11·50	2·46	4·25
Moorshedabad	3·14	6·54	4·23	9·38	1·87	3·21
Presidency Division ...	*4·65*	*10·91*	*6·68*	*15·67*	*2·36*	*5·33*
Dinagepore	2·86	6·51	2·35	6·40	3·32	6·60
Rajshahye	2·51	5·28	4·59	11·30	1·90	3·50
Rungpore	2·46	5·39	3·09	7·39	2·04	4·04
Bogra	4·62	8·26	5·57	13·88	4·38	6·78
Pubna	3·72	6·16	7·36	14·08	2·32	3·03
Darjeeling	2·03	7·17	2·01	6·78	2·56	8·93
Julpigoree	2·03	4·56	1·88	4·63	2·31	4·38
Rajshahye Division ...	*2·91*	*5·97*	*3·47*	*8·29*	*2·58*	*3·38*
Dacca	4·48	7·67	8·30	14·96	1·82	2·56
Furreedpore	4·02	7·18	7·66	14·06	1·61	2·63
Backergunge	4·19	9·62	7·01	18·00	2·72	3·48
Mymensingh	2·79	5·09	5·11	10·90	1·62	2·18
Dacca Division ...	*3·73*	*7·09*	*6·86*	*14·08*	*1·92*	*3·05*
Chittagong	6·62	10·09	8·57	17·80	5·88	6·90
Noakholly	6·87	9·41	7·88	16·52	6·49	6·77
Tipperah	5·41	9·61	7·22	16·43	4·47	6·17
Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chittagong Division ...	*6·13*	*9·71*	*7·72*	*16·70*	*5·43*	*6·55*
ALL BENGAL PROPER ...	*4·63*	*9·19*	*6·49*	*13·60*	*2·80*	*4·74*

DISTRICT, DIVISION, AND PROVINCE.	All Religions.		Hindus.		Mahomedans.	
	Under instruction.	Not under instruction but able to read and write.	Under instruction.	Not under instruction but able to read and write.	Under instruction.	Not under instruction but able to read and write.
1	2	3	4	5	6	
BEHAR.						
Patna	3·32	7·83	3·14	7·62	4·50	8·20
Gya	1·93	4·87	1·93	4·90	1·95	4·58
Shahabad	1·72	4·55	1·65	4·49	2·57	5·29
Mozufferpore	1·61	3·72	1·68	3·90	1·11	2·31
Durbhunga	1·72	3·79	1·76	3·95	1·39	2·55
Sarun	2·11	3·43	2·17	3·56	1·60	2·33
Chumparun	1·03	2·21	1·08	2·33	·71	1·31
Patna Division ...	*1·89*	*4·26*	*1·90*	*4·33*	*1·80*	*3·44*
Monghyr	1·28	3·76	1·22	3·72	1·75	3·88
Bhaugulpore	1·83	2·95	1·82	2·94	1·96	3·14
Purneah	2·06	3·44	2·03	3·38	1·78	3·98
Maldah	2·84	5·13	3·49	6·73	2·04	3·17
Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	1·33	2·51	1·97	4·17	1·79	2·85
Bhaugulpore Division ...	*1·74*	*3·38*	*1·81*	*3·68*	*2·01*	*3·40*
ALL BEHAR	*1·84*	*3·95*	*1·87*	*4·13*	*1·90*	*3·42*
ORISSA.						
Cuttack	4·79	6·77	4·77	6·69	5·02	8·48
Pooree	3·77	7·58	3·78	7·58	3·56	6·18
Balasore	6·12	7·59	6·20	7·60	3·97	6·63
Angul	1·89	2·54	1·90	2·53	4·28	13·57
Banki	2·97	4·78	2·98	4·75	·79	5·55
ALL ORISSA	*4·77*	*7·03*	*4·77*	*6·99*	*4·45*	*7·56*
CHOTA NAGPORE.						
Hazaribagh	1·21	2·55	1·29	2·74	1·08	3·25
Lohardugga	1·22	2·34	1·58	3·39	1·94	3·06
Singbhoom	2·35	2·31	2·30	2·34	9·34	11·07
Manbhoom	2·28	4·60	2·43	4·85	1·90	4·85
ALL CHOTA NAGPORE ...	*1·61*	*2·98*	*1·85*	*3·49*	*1·63*	*2·76*
THE WHOLE PROVINCE ...	*3·49*	*6·88*	*3·44*	*8·17*	*2·66*	*4·53*
FEUDATORY STATES.						
Cooch Behar	3·28	6·06	3·32	6·83	3·06	3·93
Hill Tipperah	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tributary States, Orissa	1·20	2·71	1·51	3·50	1·18	2·40
Ditto, Chota Nagpore	·32	·99	·31	·98	1·51	3·27
ALL FEUDATORY STATES	*1·45*	*3·05*	*1·52*	*3·41*	*2·95*	*3·91*
THE WHOLE PROVINCE, INCLUDING FEUDATORY STATES	*3·41*	*6·73*	*3·86*	*7·93*	*2·66*	*4·53*

CENSUS OF BENGAL, 1881.

DIAGRAM SHEWING FOR EACH DISTRICT, DIVISION, AND PROVINCE THE PERCENTAGE OF THE MALE POPULATION OF DIFFERENT RELIGIONS, FIVE YEARS OLD AND UPWARDS, WHO ARE (1) UNDER INSTRUCTION, OR (2) ABLE TO READ AND WRITE.



EXPLANATION.—The colours with cross lines represent the persons who are "under instruction," the plain colours those who are "not under instruction but are able to read and write," and the uncoloured portion, which extends to 100 in each case, those who are "not under instruction and not able to read and write."

STATEMENTS.

PART I.

SELECTIONS FROM CIRCULARS

OF

THE DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF CENSUS OPERATIONS IN BENGAL.

1. INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PREPARATION OF VILLAGE REGISTERS A AND B.
2. RULES FOR THE CENSUS OF THE BOAT POPULATION.
3. INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE NUMBERING OF HOUSES AND PREPARATION OF A HOUSE REGISTER.
4. DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISTRICT OFFICERS.
5. INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CENSUS OF THE RAILWAY POPULATION.
6. INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING THE CENSUS IN CANTONMENTS, &c.
7. INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING THE CENSUS OF THE FLOATING POPULATION SEAPORTS.
8. INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING AND FORWARDING THE SCHEDULES AFTER THE CENSUS.
9. EXPLANATION OF THE VILLAGE TABLES.

I.—INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PREPARATION OF VILLAGE REGISTERS A AND B.

Circular No. 3, dated Calcutta, the 26th April 1880.

From—J. A. BOURDILLON, ESQ., Inspector-General of Registration and Deputy Superintendent of Census Operations, Bengal,

To—All Magistrates and Collectors.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a copy of the orders of Government, No. 186 of the 20th instant, prescribing the form to be used in preparing the complete district registers of villages mentioned in paragraph 7 of Government order No. 4 of the 6th February last.

2. You will see that the two forms are prepared on different principles and are intended to check each other. The first, register A, is in effect a list of survey mouzahs with additional columns giving particulars of the inhabited hamlets found within the boundaries of each survey mouzah, and thus referring to register B. The second, register B, is intended to be the converse of A, and to show the number and names of inhabited villages, while the entries under columns 3, 4, 5 provide an easy reference to the same villages in register A. Columns 6, 7, 8 have been added to enable the Collector to check the enumerator's returns.

3. It may be as well to go into these forms in some detail. Register A, as above observed, is based upon the list of survey mouzahs, copies of which have been supplied by the Boundary Commissioner to most district officers. Columns 1, 2 of register A are the same as columns 1, 2 of the Boundary Commissioner's list, and column 3, "survey number of mouzah," corresponds with column 4, "thakbust map number." Column 4 is intended to show whether the survey mouzah is a mere plot of uninhabited ground, or whether it contains within its limits one or more inhabited villages. Column 5 should correspond with column 2 of register B, and column 6 with column 1 of register B.

4. To turn next to register B. There should be made in each district a list, numbered consecutively, of all the inhabited villages in the district, thannah by thannah and the number in column 1 of register B should be the number of each village in that list. Column 2 will contain the same names as column 5 of register A: columns 3, 4, 5 will correspond respectively with columns 3, 2, 1 in register A. Details for filling up column 6 should be obtained from circle officers, supervisors, or the enumerators themselves, and columns 7 and 8 can be filled in by the district officers.

5. Wherever lists of survey villages have been supplied, and circle officers have carefully tested them, as directed in Government circular No. 4, there should be no difficulty in preparing these village registers during the rainy season, so that they may be completed, and circle officers and supervisors supplied with copies, by the beginning of the cold weather. Where there has been no survey, or where copies of the list of survey villages have not been supplied, there may be some difficulty in filling up the first three columns of register A and columns 3, 4, 5 of register B; but in every case the consecutive district list of inhabited villages should be carefully prepared, and the registers prepared in these forms with the columns filled in as far as possible.

6. Where a town or village spreads over parts of two or more survey mouzahs there will be some difficulty in filling in these forms, for while the town should ordinarily be shewn in column 5 of register A as a part of several mouzahs, yet it will appear only once in columns 1 and 2 of register B, and for census purposes it must be treated as one town or village. When, therefore, you are filling up register A and a case of this sort occurs, you should enter in column 5 the name of the town against every mouzah in which any part of it lies, but the town should have as a whole only one consecutive number, which should be repeated for every portion of it in column 6 of register A. In filling up register B, the town or village will of course have only one number and name in columns 1, 2, but in columns 3, 4, 5 should be entered particulars of each mouzah to which it extends.

7. After these explanations I trust that you will find no difficulty in preparing the registers in the forms now prescribed.

No. 186, dated Calcutta, the 20th April 1880.

From—BABOO RAJENDRA NATH MITRA, Assistant Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial Department,

To—The Inspector-General of Registration and Deputy Superintendent of Census Operations, Bengal.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 312C of the 12th instant, enquiring in what form the census village registers should be prepared, and in reply to say that the primary object of these registers is to enable the district officer and yourself to see that no village has been omitted from the enumeration. These registers should, as laid down in this office circular No. 4, dated the 6th February last, be based (wherever practicable) on the Boundary Commissioner's lists of mouzahs. These lists, after being

tested in accordance with the instructions contained in paragraph 6 of the above circular, will easily enable the district officer to prepare lists in the following form :—

Number in Boundary Commissioner's list.	Name of mouzah.	Survey No. of mouzah.	Whether inhabited or not.	Names of inhabited villages or hamlets within the mouzah.	Number of each inhabited village or hamlet in the census register.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Ahmedpore ...	42	Inhabited ...	Ahmedpore ... Gobindpore ..	32 33	
2						

2. But the census village registers, the Lieutenant-Governor believes, have another important purpose to serve, viz. as a catalogue of, and check upon, the returns sent in by enumerators. The register should therefore be recast in another form, as follows :—

Serial No.	Name of villages.	Survey No.	Name of mouzah.	Serial No. of mouzah in Boundary Commissioner's list.	Number of houses in village.	Number of enumerator's blocks.	Circle and sub-circle in which the village is comprised.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	

The above would be merely a "register of inhabited towns and villages," the uninhabited mouzahs being omitted. It should be compiled thannah by thannah. This register would at once enable you to check the returns received in your office, while a comparison with the first register would show whether all inhabited mouzahs had been properly censused.

3. Some difficulties will of course arise in cases where parts of the same town or village are in different mouzahs; but a practical attempt to compile the two registers would, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks, at once show their defects and the means of supplying them.

4. You are therefore requested to issue a circular to all district officers in accordance with the above orders.

2.—RULES FOR THE CENSUS OF THE BOAT POPULATION.

Circular No. 12, dated Calcutta, the 3rd November 1880.

From—J. A. Bourdillon, Esq., Deputy Supdt. of Census Operations, Bengal,
To—The

I have the honour to forward herewith the following rules for the enumeration of the boat population at the census of 1881, to which I beg to invite your particular attention.

2. You will perceive that they are of a general character only, and that they leave all matters of detail to be settled independently by district officers in communication with myself.

3. It should also be borne in mind that the rules now promulgated are only intended to explain to you and to your superior census officers the general principles on which the enumeration is to be carried out, and are not meant for the use of the enumerators themselves. For these persons a set of instructions in the vernacular and a specimen page filled up will be bound up with each book of boat schedules. These will be distributed as soon as ready, but this is not likely to be before the end of next month.

4. Unlike the census by land, you will see that in the case of the boat population there can, for obvious reasons, be no preliminary enumeration, the whole of your operations

being confined to the census night (the 17th of February) and the three days which succeed it. It will therefore be the more necessary that your arrangements should be as perfect as possible, and that you should select your most intelligent men for the post of boat enumerator.

5. I shall be glad to answer any enquiries which these rules suggest to you, and to receive from you at an early date detailed proposals for giving effect to them. In particular, you should carefully consider and report at what places in your district you will count moving boats, and how you will do it.

6. Lastly, if on further enquiry you find that the number of boat schedules to be supplied to you is inadequate, I would ask you to indent as soon as possible for a further supply.

RULES FOR ENUMERATING THE BOAT POPULATION.

1. While those persons who sleep on land are being counted on the night of the census, it will be necessary to make special arrangements for enumerating all those who habitually spend the night afloat, or who may at the time of the enumeration be on a boat journey.

2. It is believed that the great majority of boats are moored for the night either at some village or *ghât*, or to the bank of the river or *khal*, whether great or small, in which they find themselves when darkness sets in. Some few, in the larger rivers, anchor in the stream, or moor by some island or *chur*, while a still smaller number pursue their journey all through the night.

3. No difficulty should be experienced in enumerating the population of boats moored for the night at well-khown *ghâts* and mooring-places; but as it will be impossible to provide enumerators to count at night the crews of boats in motion, or moored in solitary or little-known places, it will be necessary to supplement the nocturnal enumeration by an enumeration of moving boats for a few days after the actual census night.

4. In accordance with the instructions contained in paragraph 13 of Government order No. 4 of 6th February 1880, district officers should already have prepared complete lists of all mooring-places in their districts. They will now have to arrange for the appointment of one or more special enumerators to each of these places, for as the boat schedules cannot be filled up before the census night, the work will require the whole attention of the enumerator, and it is useless to expect that a house-enumerator can undertake the enumeration of any boats as well. They will also have to arrange at what points the moving boats shall be counted.

5. In order to secure the enumeration of boats which were moving or moored at unusual spots during the census night, the enumeration must be prolonged for three days. The *ghât* enumerators should visit their *ghât* for the three nights succeeding that of the census, and should enter in their schedules particulars of all boats which have arrived there and which have not been enumerated already; and during these three days enumerators should be deputed to patrol the larger rivers in boats, and to board and enumerate all passing boats which have not been counted elsewhere. These patrol boats should in particular be posted at district boundaries, toll stations, traffic register stations, and salt pass stations.

6. Where a navigable river or channel divides two districts, the moored boats will be considered to belong to the district on whose boundaries they are found. The population of boats in motion should be divided by arrangement between the district officers, a simple plan being that one should take the boats going up, the other those coming down, the stream.

7. A special form of schedule printed in red ink is prescribed for the enumeration of the boat population, a specimen of which is forwarded herewith. After filling up the particulars for each boat, the enumerators should make over to the head boatman a red boat ticket, instructing him that he is to preserve it as a certificate that his boat has been counted, and to prevent its being counted again.

8. Boats which have been counted once, and have received the red ticket, should not be counted again. Nor will it be necessary to make any corrections should the number of persons on board be different at the time of the first and second inspection, as any error in this matter will probably correct itself. Enumerators should be instructed that they are not to count again those travellers in boats who may have been counted on shore on the census night, and who may be found on board a boat on one of the three succeeding days.

3.—INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE NUMBERING OF HOUSES AND PREPARATION OF A HOUSE REGISTER.

Circular No. 13, dated Calcutta, the 9th November 1880.

From—J. A. BOURDILLON, ESQ., Deputy Superintendent of Census Operations, Bengal,

To—The

THE Government of India have decided that the definition of a "house" in the instructions to enumerators to be issued with the vernacular schedules shall be a "building to

which a number has previously been attached," and it is therefore essentially necessary that you should now take steps to make your supervisors and sub-supervisors and through them your enumerators, understand what they should consider to be a house, and that you should also arrange for having every house separately and clearly marked.

2. The accepted definition of a house in Bengal is as follows, viz: "*the several buildings or rooms which go to make up the homestead, whether inhabited by one or more families*," and this definition must be kept steadily in view or great confusion must ensue. Thus the Englishman's bungalow, with its servants' houses in the same compound, will be numbered as one house; so will a *sarai* with its separate rooms for different families of travellers; and so will the single hut which holds the artizan's family. One important exception, however, must be made to this general rule, and that is in the case of large lodging-houses and similar buildings in towns, where several families having no connection with each other reside. In taking the Calcutta census of 1876, Mr. Beverley found that in each of so many as 6,262 houses more than three families were residing. To enter each of these buildings as one house would be obviously misleading, and the best way out of the difficulty, in the case of buildings occupied by two or more totally unconnected families, will be to number as a separate house each room, or set of rooms inhabited by each family.

3. Having impressed these principles upon your supervisors and enumerators, it will then become necessary for the latter to make ready the way for the enumeration, and for the operation of the definition of the Government of India by preparing a house register, and by numbering every house in their blocks.

4. Every enumerator must forthwith go round his block, and number in a consecutive series every inhabited house it contains; but inasmuch as the census of the railway population will be taken by the railway authorities, railway premises must be carefully excluded from this numbering, a note being made of their existence in the column of remarks. To public institutions such as jails, hospitals, dispensaries, police lines, and the like, only one number must be given, for the census of these places will not be taken by the ordinary enumerators, but by their own authorities. When the enumerator has numbered all the inhabited houses, he must give a number to each ghât, temple, mosque, encamping-ground, and uninhabited building that his block contains. You will understand that these are not to be mingled up with the inhabited houses, but that an independent, but continuous, list of them is to be made at the end of the list of inhabited houses. The object of this arrangement is to make sure that on the night of the final enumeration the enumerator shall visit not only the inhabited houses in his block, but also, unless they have been made over to some special person—such as ghâts to boat enumerators, schools to their principals, &c.—all other places where it is possible that people may sleep, and either enter their inmates in his book, or certify that they are empty. When there are more blocks than one in a village, the supervisor must decide what their sequence shall be, and the first number in block No 2 will then be the next after the number of the last uninhabited house in block No. 1. Conversely, when one block contains parts, or the whole, of more than one village, the numbering should begin afresh for the houses of each village in the block.

5. The numbering of the houses may be done in any way that will be inexpensive, and yet sufficiently permanent to allow the figures to remain visible until after the 17th of February, which will be the census night. Chalk, charcoal, paint or cow-dung may be used, or the numbers may be cut on the lintel of the door. Whatever small expenditure is incurred in this operation may be passed by you as a contingent charge. In towns and municipalities it is expected that this numbering will already have been done for purposes of assessment, and the operation there will be an easy one.

6. Having completed this operation, or while engaged in it, each enumerator must prepare for his block a "house register" in the form given below, showing the name of the village, the number of the house in a consecutive series for his block, the use to which the house is put, *i.e.*, whether it is a shop, dwelling-house, lodging-house, mosque, &c., and the name of the head of the house, or if the head of the house is a female, and there is any objection to her name being made public, the name of the principal male occupant.

7. If this register is properly prepared, it will ensure the intimate acquaintance of each enumerator with every building in his block, and with the names of the heads of each inhabited house. This register will of course be in the vernacular, and should be kept for his own guidance by the enumerator himself; but an abstract of it, in the second form given below, which may be called the "index register," should be forwarded by each enumerator to the sub-supervisor above him, or if there be no sub-superviser, to the supervisor of the circle within which his block lies. From these abstracts sub-supervisors and supervisors will prepare further abstracts in the same form for their sub-circles and circles: from their abstracts superintendents will prepare abstracts for their charges, and from the charge abstracts you will be able to prepare an abstract statement for your whole district, one copy of which should be submitted to me before the end of the current year. At the same time from the enumerators' registers your supervisors will be able to check and correct the figures for final entry in column 6 of your register B.

8. The enumerators' house registers must be prepared without any delay, and they should be checked by the personal enquiry of the sub-supervisors and supervisors who, in submitting their index registers, must certify that they have tested 25 per cent of the enumerator's work; and you should cause your subdivisional officers and assistants, and also all subordinates who may be moving about the district, to take an active part in this work. You should take steps to secure for the enumerators the assistance and countenance

of the village officers, zemindary agents, and other persons of local influence, so that this very important operation, which forms the basis of the eventual enumeration, may be carried through without difficulty.

9. Lastly, I would point out that these registers must be completed before the distribution of the enumerators' schedules commences, and as this will probably be at the beginning of December, there is no time to be lost.

1.—*Register of Houses in Block No._____ under Enumerator named_____*

Name of the village.	Number of the house.	Use to which the house is put.	Name of the head* of the house.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5

* If the head of the house is a woman, this should be stated, and the name need not be given.

2.—*Index Register of Villages, Blocks, and Houses in Circle (or Sub-Circle) No._____ under Supervisor (or Sub-Supervisor) named_____*

Number of village in register B, column 1.	Name of village.	Number of houses in the village.	Serial number of block.	Name of enumerator.	Total number of houses in the block.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

4.—DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISTRICT OFFICERS.

Circular No. 14, dated Calcutta, the 24th November 1880.

From—J. A. BOURDILLON, Esq., Deputy Supdt. of Census Operations, Bengal,
To—The

WHAT may be called the rudimentary arrangements for the census having now been completed in most districts, it appears to be time to set forth more fully on paper for your guidance, and for the instruction of your subordinates, the intentions of Government with regard to the further operations now to be undertaken.

2. In almost every district the local area has been finally parcelled out into superintendents' charges, supervisors' circles, and enumerators' blocks; the villages comprised in each block have been visited; the Boundry Commissioner's list of survey villages has been compared with the lists of inhabited villages provided by the police or obtained by other means; discrepancies have been reconciled as far as possible, and complete lists of all villages have been made out in the two forms known as registers A and B; letters of appointment sent from my office have been filled up and issued to enumerators in many districts, while the same operation in others is in an advanced state. Lastly, in accordance with the instructions contained in my circular No. 13C, enumerators should now be preparing their house registers and numbering the houses in their blocks in conformity therewith.

3. What remains to be done may be divided into five principal operations, viz.—

(1) Distribution of schedules, and instruction of enumerators.
(2) Preliminary enumeration.
(3) Testing of this enumeration.
(4) Final enumeration.
(5) Collection and submission of returns.

4. *Distribution of schedules and education of enumerators.*—The enumerators' schedules in the form with which you are already familiar have been translated into Bengali, Urdu (Persian character), Hindi (Nagri and Kaithee characters), Uriya, and Nepali-Hindi (for Darjeeling), and they are bound up together in books containing ten forms, or 20 pages each. These are preceded by a page of instructions to enumerators translated into the same language as the schedules, and with a specimen page properly filled up. The whole is enclosed in an outer cover of stout brown paper, with a printed docket pasted on it. One page being devoted to each house, every book will on the average contain particulars of the inmates of 20 houses, amounting, according to the averages of the last census, to about 100 persons. The distribution of these books of schedules is to begin to-day, and they will be sent first to the most inaccessible districts. His whole supply should be in the hands of each district officer by the middle of December. The figures in columns 6, 7 of your register B, and the house registers supplied by your enumerators under circular 13, will enable you to calculate the number of books to be given to each enumerator for the enumeration of his block. An extra book or two may be given to each to meet cases of accidental loss or destruction of books; and the enumerators should be made clearly to understand that under no circumstances will the mutilation of their books be allowed. Each book must be forwarded in original just as it is, unless it is copied out afresh *in toto*.

5. While you are waiting for your supply of enumerators' books, you should collect together your supervisors and explain fully to them the procedure to be followed, and the manner in which the census is to be taken as set forth in the instructions to enumerators, a copy of which is given as Appendix A to this circular. When your books are received, they should be distributed at once to supervisors, who should immediately proceed to call together to various convenient points in their circles the enumerators of the neighbouring villages. The books should then and there be made over to the enumerators, and the supervisor should go through the printed instructions and the specimen page with them, explaining all difficulties and satisfying himself that the intentions of Government and the requirements of the schedule are really understood. This process must be repeated till the supervisor has seen and personally instructed every enumerator in his circle. If timely arrangements are made, you should be able to have all the books in your enumerators' hands before the 1st of January next.

6. *Preliminary enumeration.*—On the 5th of January, or as soon after that date as possible, the preliminary enumeration of the population will begin. I need hardly remind you that the intention of Government in the present census is to take first a leisurely preliminary enumeration, then to have that tested as far as possible, and finally to have the entries made during the preliminary enumeration finally checked on one night throughout India. Commencing from the 5th of January, each enumerator will go round his block by day, taking with him his house register, and will fill in all particulars at his leisure, till he has obtained them for the inmates of every inhabited house in his block. He will not, at the preliminary enumeration, count the casual inmates of uninhabited houses, serais, &c., for the obvious reason that if he did he would probably have, on the night of the final enumeration, to rewrite the whole page for each such house. But he should give to each of such places a separate page in his book, headed by the number allotted to it in his house register, and this page should be left blank till the night of the final enumeration. In the case of dâk bungalows, hotels, serais, &c., which have permanent as well as temporary residents, the enumerator should enter during his preliminary enumeration, the names of permanent residents and of such temporary residents as are expected to remain till after the night of the final enumeration, viz. the 17th February. Great pains should be taken to make the enumerators understand that their work must be done with the greatest accuracy, and that it must be finished by the end of January; they should also be told that their entries will be checked and tested between the preliminary and the final enumeration, and they should be instructed to keep their books very carefully, and not to send them in until after the final enumeration.

7. I will now ask you to read carefully, side by side with the schedule, the instructions to enumerators, which you will find as Appendix A to this circular. No difficulty should be felt by any enumerator in understanding any of the instructions, or in filling up any columns but those numbered 6, 7, 10, showing religion, caste, and occupation. What is wanted in each of these cases is the fullest possible detail. Enumerators should be instructed not to accept general terms, but to insist on having a specific term in every case. All classification will be done in this office, so that each person should be entered as of the religion, caste, sect, and occupation to which he says he belongs. You will observe that while in the heading of the schedule "*Sect*" is placed in column 7, and treated as the equivalent, in the case of other persons, to *Caste*, in the case of Hindus it is ordered in paragraph 12 of the instructions to be entered in its proper place as a subdivision of *Religion*. You should particularly impress this point upon your supervisors and enumerators, and make them thoroughly understand that they are to follow, not the headings of the schedule, but the instructions in paragraph 12. The provisions of paragraph 16 will also require careful explanation.

8. *Testing of the preliminary enumeration.*—As soon as the enumerators have finished their preliminary enumeration, which should be at the latest by the 31st of January, you should take steps to have their work thoroughly tested before the night of the final enumeration, viz. the 17th of February. For this purpose your mainstay will of course be upon the supervisors, but you should also impress in to this service all the available agency in your district, both

official and non-official. Your powers in this direction are very large, for section 3 of the Census Act says :—" The local Government may appoint any person by name, or in virtue of his office to take, or aid in, or surpervise the taking of the census within any specified local area ; " and by notification, dated the 22nd November, at page 1057 of the *Calcutta Gazette* of to-day's date, the Lieutenant-Governor delegates this power to District Magistrates and Subdivisional Officers within their respective jurisdictions, and to District Superintendents of Police, and Senior Assistants or Deputy Magistrates at head-quarters of districts under the orders of the District Magistrates. Your testing officers should, if possible, visit every block in company with its enumerator, and test the entries at random in 25 per cent of the houses he has enumerated. If the result is unsatisfactory, it should at once be reported to you, and the enumerator should be either made to go through his block again, or another enumerator should be appointed in his place. In any case it will be unsafe to leave the correction of badly prepared schedules to the night of the final enumeration, for there will then be time for only a few corrections and additions, and not for a wholesale rewriting of entries.

9. *Final enumeration.*—On the night of the 17th February every enumerator will take his book, as already written up, and, visiting in order every house in his block, correct it finally, so that it shall be an exact record of the inmates of each house on that night. He will now fill in the numbers in column 1 of the schedule, writing the names of additional persons below the line he has drawn across the page after the last name recorded during the preliminary enumeration, and he will total the numbers at the foot of the column. After correcting the entries for the inhabited houses already made during the preliminary enumeration, the enumerator will visit all the other places numbered in his house register as possible sleeping places, and to which a page has been allotted as desired in paragraph 6 above. He will procure full particulars for all persons found there, or write across his page that the place is empty, if this is so. Lastly, he should go round his block and see if there are any persons passing the night in the open air, on the road, sleeping in gardens, groves of trees, &c., and should enumerate them.

10. Any small charges that there may be for lights, &c., may be defrayed from your contingent grant, but these must be very small, for the night will be moonlit, and moreover, you should, by proclamation and other means, make it widely known that on the night of the census every person must keep a light burning in his house, and that at least one member of every household must remain awake until after the enumerator's visit. You should also pass orders insisting upon the village authorities giving to the enumerators all the help in their power, and in particular you should oblige the village watchmen to accompany the enumerators on their rounds.

11. *Collection and submission of the schedules.*—On this subject orders will issue at a subsequent date nearer the actual day of the census. All that need now be said is that enumerators, before sending in their books, are to fill up the docket on the back of each, and sign their names at the foot in verification thereof. As at present arranged, no compilation of any kind will be required in district offices : the whole will be done, for Bengal in Calcutta, for Orissa at Cuttack, and at Patna for Behar and Chota Nagpore. The census duties of district officers will cease with the collection and submission of their district schedules in original to the centres which will be prescribed hereafter.

12. Such is the general scheme to be followed in all districts and parts of districts where the census is to be taken synchronously, *i.e.*, where all the entries can be checked on one final night. In districts where it is not possible to do this, there will be no separate preliminary and final enumeration, but the enumerators will go through their work counting the people between the dates fixed for each locality. Even in these cases, however, every effort must be made to have their work constantly supervised, and they should be instructed with special care as to the manner in which the schedule is to be filled up, inasmuch as there will be so much less opportunity of correcting their errors.

13. Besides these general instructions, however, there are several other points which demand special notice. The first of these is the *enumeration of the boat population.* General instructions on this head were issued with my circular No. 12 of the 3rd instant, and I now forward for your further information a copy of the instructions for boat enumerators (Appendix B), one copy of the translation of which will be bound up, as in the case of the land schedules, in each book of the boat schedules. You will see that, as already explained in my former circular, there will be no preliminary enumeration in the case of the boat population. The first counting will be on the night of the 17th February, and it will be continued on the nights of the 18th, 19th, and 20th. The instructions should be explained to the boat enumerators in the same way as in the case of the land enumerators, and I do not think that they contain anything special which requires exceptional mention, beyond what has already been noticed. It is to be observed, however, that as the boat schedules will have to be written up *ab initio* on the night of the 17th February, you will have to allow a very much smaller number of boats to each enumerator than houses to house enumerators. You will also notice that in the instructions nothing has been said with regard to those men who will have to enumerate moving boats during the day at salt pass stations, locks, traffic register stations, &c., and from patrol boats in open rivers. They will be your most intelligent men, and you should supplement the general instructions already sent by special instructions suitable to each of their cases.

14. In paragraph 4 of my circular No. 13, I requested that only one number should be given to such *public institutions* as jails, hospitals, dispensaries, police lines, &c., because the census of these places would be taken by the authorities at the head of each, and the object of the single number and the corresponding blank page which will appear in the book was to have a record of the existence of the institution, and to make sure that it had not been overlooked. All such institutions as these should be treated as special blocks, and the persons in charge of each should be called upon by you to carry out the census of the premises under his charge. For facility of reference I give in the margin a copy of section 5 of the Census Act (Act XIV of 1880), which shows at the same time the kind of public institutions to which I refer, and the duties of the persons in charge of them. In this matter, without a special report from each district officer, I am unable to say what institutions in each district should be made special blocks. I must therefore leave the matter to your discretion, and would only make the following remarks.

Duties of census officers how to be discharged in certain cases.

5. (*a*) Every military or naval officer in command of any body of men belonging to Her Majesty's military or naval forces or of any vessel of war,

(*b*) Every person (except a pilot or harbour-master) having charge or control of a vessel,

(*c*) Every person in charge of a lunatic asylum, hospital, workhouse, prison, reformatory or lock-up, or of any public, charitable, religious, or educational institution,

(*d*) Every keeper or manager of any sarai, hotel, boarding-house, lodging-house or club, and

(*e*) Every occupant of immoveable property having at the time of taking the census not less than fifty persons employed under him on or in such property,

shall, if so required by the Magistrate of the district, or, in the towns of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, by such officer as the local Government may appoint in this behalf, perform such of the duties of a census officer in relation to the persons who at the time of taking the census are under his command or charge, or inmates of his house, or present on or in such property, as such Magistrate or officer may, by an order written, printed, or lithographed, direct.

All the provisions of this Act relating to census officers shall apply (so far as they are applicable) to all such persons while performing such duties; and any person refusing or neglecting to perform any duty which he is directed under this section to perform shall be deemed to have committed an offence under section 187 of the Indian Penal Code.

15. I would recommend that you should not be too liberal in making exceptional cases. It must be remembered that the heads of many of these institutions are persons who are not familiar with the filling up of forms, especially of forms with so many columns as the schedules contain; it will also be difficult to instruct them in this work, and therefore every institution made into a separate block will be removed from the hands of an enumerator who will have been specially trained to his duties, and committed to the charge of a novice. In the next place, you will have to decide which of these public institutions should be subjected to a preliminary as well as a final enumeration, like other ordinary blocks, and which of them, like those households which will have the privilege of private schedules, need be enumerated only on the night of the 17th February. You will be guided in coming to this decision by a twofold consideration, *i.e.*, the permanent or temporary character of its inmates, and their number. On the one hand it is obviously a waste of time to enumerate a month beforehand the inmates of a hospital, while on the other it will be out of the question for a road contractor to enumerate his gangs of coolies on the one night of the 17th February. The best principle to adopt is that these separate blocks should be enumerated once for all on the night of the 17th February, unless the inmates are so numerous as to make this impracticable, in which case the preliminary enumeration should be at as short a date previous to that of the final enumeration as possible.

16. It has been decided, as you will see from paragraph 3 of the notification quoted above in paragraph 9, that the privilege of *private schedules*, to be filled up by the heads of houses themselves, should be very sparingly accorded, and in fact it will not be extended to any but European and Eurasian householders and English-speaking foreigners. No loose sheets of schedules are being printed for this purpose in any language but English. On the back of each of these sheets are printed the instructions necessary to enable the householders to fill it up, a copy of which is forwarded herewith as Appendix C. You will observe that there will in these cases be no preliminary enumeration, and that the whole of the enumeration will be done by the head of the house himself on the night of the 17th February.

17. For the enumeration of *travellers by road* no general rules are possible. Each district officer must make his own arrangements for the enumeration of all travellers by night by patrolling or special enumerators, and of all roving tribes, and persons without a fixed residence who are likely to escape the regular house enumerators. The general arrangements should be separately reported to this office for my information.

18. For *fairs* and similar large gatherings also special arrangements will be required. Those generally made for the purposes of police and sanitation would doubtless be suitable with a little amplification. But as it is possible that I may be able to supply the officers of some districts with hints of value derived from the arrangements made elsewhere, I shall be glad to receive a brief report of the arrangements you propose to make.

19. The *enumeration of the railway population* will be carried out by the railway authorities themselves. Under the above term is included not only employés and others sleeping on railway premises, but also passengers travelling by train on the night of the 17th February. Special instructions for this enumeration are being issued by the Government of India, and when received they will be communicated to all district officers through whose jurisdiction any line of railway passes.

20. In the same way, no orders can yet be passed for the enumeration of *cantonments* and barracks until the orders which are now said to be under issue are received from the Supreme Government.

21. For your *municipalities* I presume that your arrangements have already assumed some shape, and I shall therefore be glad to receive a report of what has been done and how you intend to carry your operations through. I forward herewith, however, for your general guidance an extract from a letter to the Magistrate of the 24-Pergunnahs, containing suggestions as to the enumeration of the population in the Suburban Municipality. They are merely suggestions, and need not be taken as absolute orders; but any serious deviation which you propose to make from their general policy should be specially reported for information.

22. For the enumeration of *ports* special rules will be forwarded, and separate orders will follow about the enumeration of *prisoners in jails*.

23. To officers of districts where these general arrangements cannot be carried out separate letters will be written in regard to their special cases.

24. If any other special points upon which you feel doubt occur to you, I shall be glad if you will immediately refer them to me. Meanwhile you should lose no time in carrying out the arrangements detailed above, and in forwarding to me a short report showing what measures you propose to adopt for carrying out the census—

(1)—Of travellers by road.
(2)—At fairs.
(3)—In municipalities.

APPENDIX A.

FOR VERNACULAR SCHEDULES ONLY.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ENUMERATORS.

A.—Preliminary Record of Entries.

1. BEGINNING from the 5th January 1881, you will enter in this book all the people living in your block except those who will be scheduled on separate English forms by heads of houses themselves. If there is not room for all in this book, another will be given you.

2. You must write very distinctly, in the language you know best, and in black ink.

3. By "*house*" you will understand a building to which a separate number has been affixed.

4. You will take a fresh page for each house. If one page will not contain the names and particulars of all the inmates of a house, they should be continued on the next page; but the names and particulars of the inmates of a fresh house must not be begun in the middle of a page.

5. The first person entered in each house should be the head of the house, whether male or female. Visitors and others who may be expected to be absent at the final census should be entered after the list of the permanent residents has been completed.

6. You will enter all persons living in, or taking their meals from, the house at the time when the form is filled up. You will not enter any persons absent on journeys or temporarily residing elsewhere; but you will enter persons who are sleeping outside or are out of doors fishing or working in the fields or watching the crops, or, like yourself, away from home for some hours on Government business. After the last name now entered you will draw a line across the page (*vide* Rule 22).

7. *Column* 1.—This column will not be filled up till the night of the final enumeration (*vide* Rule 20).

8. *Column* 2.—Enter here the names of all males in full. Enter also the names of females, if given; but if there is any objection to telling the names of females, enter the word "*female*" in column 2, and fill in all other particulars as usual in the remaining columns.

9. *Column* 3.—Young boys and girls who may have been married should be entered as married, even though they may not have actually begun to live with their wives or husbands. A male or female whose first wife or husband has died should be entered as widower or widow, unless he or she has married again, in which case he or she is to be entered as married.

10. *Column* 4.—Enter the proper sex in all cases, whether or no you have written "*female*" instead of the name in column 2.

11. *Column* 5.—In the case of infants under one year of age, enter the age in months, writing the word "*month*" after the number. In all other cases enter the number of years of age attained on the last birthday. If any person is unable to state his or her age precisely, do not leave column 5 blank, but fill it up with as much accuracy as you can from your own observation if the person is before you, or after enquiry from the other inmates of the house. You are forbidden to ask to see any female who is not voluntarily produced before you.

12. *Column* 6.—Here enter the main religious denominations to which each person belongs, as Hindu, Mahomedan, Christian, Sikh, Jain, Brahmo (or other religious division of Hindus not mentioned above), Buddhist, Jew, Parsi. Also enter the sect of the religion to which the person belongs. Hindus should be shown as of the sect to which they say they belong. In the case of Mussulmans state whether they are Shiahs, Sunnis, Wahabis, &c.; Christians should be shown as members of the Church of England, Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, Baptists, Wesleyans, Armenians, as belonging to the Greek or Syrain rite, or, if not belonging to any of these denominations, under the general head of "Others." Children should be entered as of the same religion as their father.

13. *Column* 7.—In the case of Hindus, here enter the caste and also the subdivision of the caste, as Brahman, Kanaujiya, Rajput, Pramara, Baniya Agarwala. Mussulmans should be described as Sayad, Shekh, Moghul, Pathan, &c.

14. *Column* 8.—"Mother-tongue" means the language ordinarily spoken in the household of each person's parents, whether or no it be that of the locality in which he or she is residing at the time of the census.

15. *Column* 9.—Here enter the name of the district where the person was born, and add the name of the province if he or she was not born in the province in which his or her name is recorded. If the person was born out of India, the country will be named: no further detail is needed.

16. *Column* 10.—The occupation of every male who is of age to do work should be entered, or, if he has no occupation, the source from which he chiefly derives his income, as "pensioner." If he has several occupations, that one should be entered from which his income is principally derived. But if he combines agriculture with any other profession or trade, such as that of money-lender, carpenter, or smith, both occupations should be mentioned. Persons who are really engaged in agriculture should be shown as such, even though by caste they may be something else, as smiths, potters, fishermen, &c. Agriculturists should be described by terms indicating the nature of their connection with the land, such as proprietor, tenant, under-tenant, ploughman or herdsman employed all the year round, day-labourer, &c. General terms, such as servant, workman, shopkeeper, must be avoided: the particular service, or trade, or handicraft must be given. Women who follow the occupation of their husbands or their family, such as working in the fields, weaving, &c., should be shown as agriculturists, weavers, &c., like the husband or head of the house. Those who gain their livelihood by some special employment of their own, as grinders, spinners, grass-cutters, &c., should be shown as such. Those who are chiefly employed in domestic work, such as looking after the house and the children, cooking, &c., should have no entry made against them in this column. In every case the occupation must be expressed by the vernacular name by which it is known. Boys at school, girls, and small children should not be entered in this column. When persons are temporarily unemployed, you should enter their last or ordinary occupation.

17. *Column* 11.—Against those under instruction write ক; against those not under instruction, but able to read and write, enter খ; against those who cannot either read or write, or who can read but cannot write, or can sign their names but cannot read, write গ: only those should be shown as able to read and write who can do both.

18. *Column* 12.—Enter as "lepers" (Korhi or Kusthi) only those who are afflicted with the true or eating leprosy. Enter as "deaf mutes" only those who have been both deaf and dumb from birth. Enter as "blind" only those who are blind of both eyes.

B.—Final Enumeration.

19. On the 17th February 1881, beginning at 9 P.M., you will take this book with the entries filled in and visit every house in your block in order.

20. You will now enter a number in column 1 against every person living or taking his meals from the house on the night of the 17th February. You should enter a separate number for every female whose name is not given, as well as for each other inmate of the house.

21. If any persons entered by you in the book are no longer living in, or taking their meals from, the house, you will score out their names.

22. If any persons not as yet entered by you in this book have arrived or been born in the house, and are at the time of your visit living in or taking their meals from it, you will enter their names with all particulars, but they must be written below the line drawn as directed by Rule 6. The provisions of Rule 6 here apply.

23. Generally you will make such corrections in, and additions to, your entries as will put them in accord with the facts on the night of final enumeration.

24. When you have done what is above prescribed, unless other enumerators have been specially told off for the work, you will go to the encamping grounds, if any, in your block, and count the travellers there, also any pilgrims or travellers by road (but not by rail or boat), or others passing the night on the roads within your block. You should state that they are travellers, but should enter in your book all the usual particulars regarding them.

25. You are not to persist in inquiring the name of any female if there is any objection to giving it, or to ask any information not required for the purposes of the census, as for instance, the amount of any person's income; but all persons are bound to give you such information as will enable you to fill up this book of forms. Any enumerator detected in extorting money on any pretext connected with the census renders himself liable to be punished under the Penal Code.

5.—INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CENSUS OF THE RAILWAY POPULATION.

Circular No. 20, dated Calcutta, the 1st January 1881.

From—J. A. Bourdillon, Esq., Deputy Supdt. of Census Operations, Bengal,
To—The

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of the instructions for the enumeration of the railway population, with a copy of my letter to the Agent of the Railway in your district. You should lose no time in placing yourself in communication with the Agent, or such officer as he may depute for the supervision of the census, and in making all the necessary arrangements.

No. 2738C, dated Calcutta, the 31st December 1880.

From—J. A. Bourdillon, Esq., Deputy Supdt. of Census Operations, Bengal,
To—The of the Railway.

As you are doubtless already aware, there will be taken in February 1881 a general census of the Indian empire, and it has been decided by the Government of India that the Railway authorities should be asked in each province to carry out the enumeration of the railway population in communication with local officers and under the general supervision of the Deputy Superintendent of Census Operations.

2. In accordance with these orders, I have now the honour to forward to you a copy of the rules sanctioned by the Government of India for the enumeration of the railway population, as they stand after being modified to suit the requirements of Bengal. I shall feel obliged if you will read them carefully in connection with the following remarks

3. It is intended, as you will see, that in the railway premises, as elsewhere, there should be first of all a preliminary enumeration of the population in January 1881, and then a final correction, on the night of the 17th February 1881, of the entries thus made. This will ensure the accurate enumeration of the resident railway population; but as a census of that population would be incomplete if persons travelling by train on that night were omitted, special arrangements will be made to have them counted once for all on the night of the 17th and the morning of the 18th February.

4. Having thus briefly stated the proposed manner of taking the census, I would invite your attention to rules 2 to 11, which deal with the enumeration of the railway population proper. The definition of this population in rule 2 leaves nothing to be desired in the way of clearness, and mistakes should not easily occur. I presume that the boundaries of railway premises are everywhere accurately and clearly defined, and that they are well known to the local authorities both of the district and the railway. If not, immediate steps should be taken to have any doubtful points cleared up.

5. *Rule* 3.—The instructions contained in this rule are not intended to be peremptory, but only as a general guide, and you will have to work out the necessary details in communication with the local authorities. Your supervisors should, as stated, be officers of position and standing, and should invariably be Europeans. At small stations I would suggest that the station-master be appointed enumerator, while in large stations several enumerators would be required, who might be selected from among the clerks of the department.

6. In stations where there are more blocks than one, the boundaries of each should be very clearly marked out and be made thoroughly familiar to the enumerators. Pains should be taken to make the blocks as compact as possible, in order to prevent confusion of boundaries and to facilitate the work of the enumerator in checking his entries on the night of the final enumeration. Further, in dividing railway premises into blocks, attention should be paid to the number of European houses each contains; for, as will be seen, the enumeration of these houses will be conducted by the inhabitants themselves, and they will give but little trouble to the enumerator, who will thus have leisure to enumerate a larger number of native houses than he otherwise would.

7. The last sentence of this rule has been inserted in the belief that you will have no difficulty in securing everywhere enumerators with a competent knowledge of English, and that therefore no forms need be provided in any language but that. This arrangement, if it can be carried out, will have so many advantages that no other should be entertained until it is shown that this is impracticable. Not only will it save much trouble and delay to have the forms printed in one language only, but also I believe I am right in saying that unless English is the language used, the supervision to be exercised by your supervisors, and the testing to which they will subject the preliminary entries, will probably not be of a very valuable character.

8. *Rule* 4 defines the relations which will exist between you and myself, and between you and the various district officers through which your line passes. When once the general arrangements have been made by us in consultation, you will probably find it most convenient to allow your supervisors of railway circles to arrange local details with local officers, referring to you for arrangement with myself any points of magnitude which may arise.

9. I shall be glad to receive at a very early date the information asked for in the last clause of this rule. The list of railway blocks is not of very immediate importance; but in order that I may know what quantity of forms to prepare for your use, I should like to have,

by return of post if possible, a rough estimate of the number of persons who come under the definition of the railway population proper, as given in Rule 1. If possible, you should say how many of these are Europeans, Eurasians, and others, who will fill up their own schedules, and how many are natives whose enumeration will be carried out for them by the enumerators. The calculation should include not only your employés, but also their wives and children, and it may be a guide to you if I say that at the last census it was found that the average number of persons in a native house was five. I am aware that, to obtain any accuracy in this calculation, a reference will be necessary to the different local authorities; but as this would involve much loss of time I shall be obliged if you will favour me with a rough approximate estimate, made in your own office, to be followed at a later date by a revised estimate after the reports of the local authorities have been received.

10. *Rule* 5 deals with the question of expenditure, on which subject you are requested to correspond direct with the Census Commissioner; and I will only remark that your estimate of expenditure should not include charges for paper or for the printing of forms, as you will be provided with them from this office.

11. *Rules* 6 *to* 10 are clear and speak for themselves. You will not fail to observe that there is a broad difference between the procedure to be followed in enumerating Europeans, Eurasians, and English-speaking foreigners, and in enumerating the purely native railway population. The former will be allowed the privilege of private schedules, which they will be required to fill up themselves once for all on the 17th February; while the latter, who will be counted by the enumerators, will be subjected to a preliminary, and then a final enumeration. With the forms for both these classes of persons full instructions will be forwarded, so that I hope that no difficulty will be found in filling up either the private schedules or those of the enumerators.

12. *Rules* 12 *to* 17, both inclusive, relate to the enumeration of the travelling population on the census night, and they should be very carefully studied. You will see that it will be carried out in two ways—first, by counting all those who alight during a certain period, and, secondly, by enumerating all those who are in the trains at the expiry of that period. From both enumerations those persons will be omitted who say that they have already been counted.

13. For this work, therefore, you will require one or more special enumerators at every station to count the persons alighting from each train between the specified hours, and to record for each person the necessary particulars. They should be men of exceptional intelligence and trustworthiness. Additional precautions should be taken to prevent passengers leaving the station without being counted, and it would be well if the assistance of the railway police were secured to keep order.

14. For the enumeration of the passengers on the morning of the 18th February at the first considerable station at which the train stops after 6 a m., very careful arrangements will have to be made, both in order to prevent undue detention of the train and annoyance to the passengers. These details should be worked out in consultation with the Magistrate of the district in each case; but I should like to have from you a statement of the stations at which the trains will be stopped under this rule, and a brief sketch of the general plan you propose to adopt for this part of the operations.

15. It will also have to be arranged at what stations the private schedules mentioned in Rule 15 should be distributed. Probably the best plan will be for the guard of the train to be provided with a supply, which he should be directed to give to all the persons privileged to receive them who may be in the train at the last large station at which the train stops for any time before 9 p m. on the 17th February: he should also have an extra supply for persons joining the train after this distribution has taken place.

16. What you should first do, in my opinion, after forwarding to me the rough estimate of the railway population asked for in paragraph 9 above, is to break up the railway premises under your superintendence into blocks and circles, and select the men to be appointed the enumerators and supervisors of each. They should be supplied with letters appointing them to be census officers, signed by you under the powers conferred by section 3 of the Census Act, and delegated to you by a notification which will appear in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 5th January. Copies of the rules should then be sent to each of these officers, and they should be requested to make themselves familiar with them at once. At the same time a list of the circles and blocks made, and of the persons so selected, should be sent to each District Magistrate concerned for his information. Directly the enumerators have been appointed, they should be instructed to prepare at once and submit to you, through the supervisor of the circle, a statement of the number of inhabited houses in their blocks, distinguishing between those of Europeans and those of natives, in order that you may know what number of forms will be required for each block.

17. These forms, though all of one kind, are made up in separate ways; the private schedules are loose sheets, which will be left in appropriate numbers at the privileged houses, together with a copy of instructions for filling them up. The schedules for the native population, though in the same form, will be sewn up into books of 11 pages each, with one page of instructions, the whole enclosed in an outer wrapper with a docket. The enumerator can easily ascertain by enquiry the number of private schedules to be distributed, and you should estimate the number of forms that he requires for the census of the native population in his block by calculating one page for each house, so that a book will hold particulars of 11 houses. The distribution of these forms I propose to leave to you, and shall therefore

send them to you in large quantities. As soon as they have been distributed, the supervisors should visit each block in succession, and satisfy themselves that the enumerators understand their duties.

18. Many points of practical difficulty, of which I have no knowledge, will doubtless occur to you, and I shall be glad if you will bring them forward at an early date, so that they may be settled by the time that the schedules are ready for distribution. They can be dealt with in a set of supplementary instructions, which will also comprise rules for the collection and submission of the papers when the census is over. At present, to save loss of time, I forward for your information these general rules in order that your subordinates may at once make themselves familiar with the general outline of the census scheme. I also forward copies of the enumerator's schedule, the instructions to enumerators, and of the check-ticket which I propose to adopt for the night of the 17th February.

RULES FOR TAKING THE CENSUS OF THE RAILWAY POPULATION IN BENGAL.

1. The population to be enumerated by the railway authorities consists of two classes. I.—The railway population properly so called; and II.—The population travelling by rail on the night of the 17th February.

I.—The Railway Population Proper.

2. The railway population is composed of—

(1) Permanent employés of the Railway Company, with their families and servants, residing on the railway premises, and temporary visitors staying in their houses:

(2) Labourers or others employed on railway work, by contractors or by railway officials, if sleeping within the railway premises.

Subject to the provisions of Rule 16, persons who work on the railway, whether by day or night, but habitually return to their own homes outside the railway premises in their non-working hours, are not to be counted among the railway population, but in the villages or blocks where their homes are situated.

3. The houses and buildings situated in the railway premises should be divided into blocks and circles. Each block should contain on an average from 60 to 100 houses or buildings, and each circle should contain from 10 to 20 blocks. As a rule, each station should be considered a separate block; but if too large to be enumerated by one person, it should be subdivided into blocks, each containing from 60 to 100 houses or buildings. There should be an enumerator to each block and a supervisor to each circle, who should be appointed by the chief railway authorities. These enumerators should be unpaid, and they should be either Europeans or English-speaking natives, the former being employed where the population to be enumerated is mainly European. The supervisors should in all cases be railway officials of position and standing.

4. The Agent for each line of railway, or such officer as he may depute to the special charge of the census operations, should consult, on all main points and on all matters affecting general arrangements, with the Deputy Superintendent of Census Operations in Bengal. Any point which cannot be decided in communication with him should be referred to the Census Commissioner. As regards minor local details, the Agent should consult with the Collectors or Deputy Commissioners of the various districts through which passes the line of railway under his charge. He should prepare and send in to the Deputy Superintendent of Census a list showing the number of railway blocks on his line of railway, the estimated number of the resident railway population to be enumerated, and the language in which the forms should be printed. This information is necessary in order that they may be supplied to him without delay.

5. Unavoidable extra expenditure will be sanctioned by the Government of India in the Home, Revenue, and Agricultural Department. Such expenditure will consist of the remuneration to enumerators, in the very rare cases where paid officials cannot be found to perform this duty, extra payment for overtime night-work on 17th February, and the cost of contingencies on account of stationery, oil, &c. Estimates of such expenditure, distinguishing these three heads, should be drawn up by the Agent on each line of railway and forwarded to the Census Commissioner, who will submit them to the Government of India in the Department named above.

6. Employés who are Europeans, Eurasians, or English-speaking foreigners, will be allowed the privilege of filling up their own schedules, and the enumerators should be instructed to leave, on the 15th February, private schedules in English at their houses. They should be requested to fill them up for their own families and servants, including all visitors in their houses, in accordance with the facts existing on the night of the 17th February.

7. The native portion of the railway population, as defined in Rule 1, will be made the subject of two enumerations. The preliminary enumeration should begin on the 25th January, and be completed by the 5th February. It should be conducted in all respects in the same manner as the enumeration of the native population outside of the railway premises, and the same instructions to enumerators, with very slight modifications, will apply in both cases.

8. The supervisors should commence testing the schedules on the 5th February, and should test, before the 15th February, as many as they can of the entries made by the enumerators in the forms for the native population. It will not be necessary to test the private schedules distributed under Rule 6.

9. For the final enumeration, the enumerators, commencing at 9 p.m. on the night of the 17th February, should take the final census of all the native population previously enumerated by themselves, correcting the entries according to the facts as found to exist on that evening.

10. On the morning of the 18th February the enumerators should go round and collect from the different heads of houses the private schedules distributed under Rule 6. These schedules should be signed and dated by the enumerators, and handed by them to the supervisor, who should satisfy himself that the number is complete.

11. Railway employés who are on duty on the night of the 17th, but are not travelling with any train, should be recorded as present in the homes in which they were entered in the private schedules, or at the time of the preliminary enumeration, as the case may be.

II.—The Population travelling by Rail on the night of the 17th February.

12. There should be a special enumerator appointed at each railway station, whose duty it will be to count the travelling population on the night of the 17th February. No preliminary enumeration is possible in this case.

13. Between 9 p.m. of the 17th and 6 a.m. of the 18th this enumerator should count every traveller by rail at the station where he alights on arriving at his destination. He should first ask the traveller if he has already been counted by any enumerator on that night, and if he says that he has, the enumerator should accept this answer and let him pass. If he says he has not, the enumerator shall enter the traveller's name and all particulars regarding him in the prescribed schedule, and should give him a check-ticket (forms for which will be provided) to show that he has been included in the returns; and the traveller should produce this ticket if any one tries to count him again.

14. All passengers found in the train at 6 a.m. on the 18th February, who, on enquiry, appear not to have been counted already on the foregoing evening, should be counted at the first considerable station at which the train stops at or about that hour. A place should be chosen where the train is timed to stop for a sufficient period, which might, if necessary, be slightly prolonged. No check-ticket need be given on this occasion.

15. In the case of 1st and 2nd class passengers, and of Europeans travelling 3rd class, private schedules should be distributed to them by the guard of the train on the evening of 17th February, and they should be requested to fill up the particulars for themselves and for any members of their families travelling in the same train, but not for native servants travelling with them. If these passengers alight at any station between 9 p.m. on the 17th and 6 a.m. on the 18th February, these schedules should be given up to the enumerator of the station where they alight. If not, these schedules should be collected at the station where the train stops at 6 a.m., and the enumerator (who should be an European) should see that they appear to be correctly filled up. He should also himself fill up the schedule if, in any case, the passenger has omitted to do so.

16. Railway employés on duty on the night of 17th February, who are travelling with any train, and who have not been counted before on that night, should be enumerated, if they finally leave the train before 6 a.m. on the 18th February, at the station where they alight under Rule 12; otherwise they should be enumerated with the passengers under Rules 13 and 14.

17. Troops travelling by rail are not to be enumerated, but this exception does not extend to any native servants who may be travelling with them.

18. When the returns, both for the railway and the travelling population, are complete, they should be forwarded by the supervisors to the district officer in accordance with instructions which will issue on this subject hereafter.

6.—INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING THE CENSUS IN CANTONMENTS, &c.

Circular No. 22, dated Calcutta, the 7th January 1881.

From—J. A. BOURDILLON, Esq., Deputy Superintendent of Census Operations, Bengal,

To—The

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a copy of the rules approved by the Lieutenant-Governor for taking the census of cantonments and troops in Bengal, and to say that I have asked Government to address the proper Military authorities on the subject of the military census, and to request them to place themselves in communication with the Magistrate of each district in which a cantonment is situated.

2. You will see that in order to save the Military authorities all avoidable labour they are only asked to carry out the census *in regimental lines and within strictly military limits*, the enumeration of the mixed population in other parts of the cantonments being left to the

civil authorities working through the Cantonment Magistrate, or his equivalent where there is no Cantonment Magistrate.

3. The first thing that you should do is to address the Chief Military authority of each cantonment in your district through the station staff officer. You should call his attention to section 5, clauses (*a*) and last, of the Census Act, and while pointing out to him the obligations which that section imposes on him, you should be careful to define very clearly in your written order exactly what his duties will be. You should arrange to supply him with as many English schedules in books and loose sheets as he may require, and also with whatever number he needs in the vernacular.

4. You should at the same time settle with him how much of the population in cantonments will be enumerated by you under the provisions of rules 1 and 2, and how much will be left to him, taking the greatest care that the boundaries between his jurisdiction and yours are most clearly defined. The enumerators within purely military limits will be appointed by the Chief Military authority, but in your part of the cantonments enumerators should be appointed by you, and the houses should be numbered as already directed for ordinary village blocks in my circular No. 13. If time presses the house register may be omitted, but for your own satisfaction I would recommend that efforts should be made to prepare it.

5. The census of your portion of the cantonments should be taken in the schedules in the vernacular of your district, and the cantonment should be treated as a circle, the Cantonment Magistrate or his representative being the supervisor. The purely military part of the cantonment should be treated as another or separate circle.

6. Private schedules may be allowed in all parts of the cantonments under the same conditions as elsewhere. The instructions already printed on the back of these schedules are perfectly suitable for use in cantonments, whether in your or the military part; but a slight modification for cantonments is necesssary in the instructions bound up with the enumerators' *books* of English schedules. The modified instructions will be forwarded with the least possible delay, but the issue of the books should not be deferred on their account. These instructions should be substituted for those already bound up in the enumerators' books, the latter being torn out and the new ones being folded with the books in their place.

7. When the books of schedules for both parts of the cantonments are filled up, they should be submitted to you, and placed together as the returns for two circles, and finally submitted for compilation with the returns for the rest of your district.

RULES FOR TAKING THE CENSUS IN CANTONMENTS, AND OF TROOPS ON THE MARCH.

1. The census, in so much of each cantonment as lies beyond regimental lines or other purely military limits, will be taken by the civil authorities working through the Cantonment Magistrate. It will be made in precisely the same manner as that outside cantonments, and therefore no special instructions are needed. *The following rules relate only to the Census of so much of Cantonments as will be taken by the Military authorities.*

2. The census will be taken by the Military authorities within such limits as may be determined in consultation with the Civil authorities.

3. This census will include all persons, of whatever sex, age, race or profession, who are, on the night of the census, viz. the 17th February 1881, living either temporarily or permanently, within the above limits. Thus, it will include all persons who, though ordinarily living elsewhere, may on the night in question have their temporary residence within the limits, and also all persons who, while actually living at the time within the limits, may be temporarily absent on night duty, or the like.

4. The census entries will be written in printed schedules, which will be supplied to the Military authorities, together with detailed instructions for filling them up. The schedules will be filled up by way of preliminary record some days before the night of the 17th February 1881, which has been fixed for the actual census; and on that night this preliminary record will have to be gone over, entry by entry, and corrected and added to where necessary, so as to bring it into agreement with the facts as they actually stand on that night.

5. To prevent mistakes or double enumeration, it will be advisable that all military limits should be cleared between sunset on the appointed night and sunrise on the following morning of all persons who are not temporarily or permanently living within the limits either as officers of any grade, fighting men, non-combatants attached to the regiment, servants of the above, regimental followers or visitors or members of the families of any of these.

6. The Civil and Military authorities, who should act in concert throughout in all matters relating to the census, should at once determine the limits within which each, respectively, will be responsible for the census under paragraphs 1 and 2.

7. The census of regiments on the march, and of detachments of troops on duty, within the limits of the province, will be taken by the officer in command. This census will include all persons, of whatever sex, age, race, or profession who are marching with the troops Officers in command of troops, who will be marching in Bengal on the date of the census, should be provided with schedules and copies of the instructions by the Military authorities of the cantonments from which they start.

8. If the regiment or detachment is travelling by rail on the night of the census, the census should be taken at the first place at which they alight. Such troops will not be enumerated in the railway census.

9. The Military authorities of each cantonment should, as soon as they are in a position to estimate their needs, indent upon the Magistrate or Deputy Commissioner of the district for instructions and books of schedules, stating the number of copies of each they will require, and what the language should be. The schedules for all European regiments will be in English. Each book of schedules contains 20 pages, and is accompanied by a set of instructions to the enumerators. Each page will hold twelve names. Each book is enclosed in an outer wrapper with a docket. The schedules can be had in English, Bengali, Urdu, and Hindi.

At least one copy of the detailed instructions and one book of schedules will be required for each enumerator.*

10. As soon as the final enumeration is complete, the schedules should be carefully scrutinised and tested; and when the local authorities have satisfied themselves of their correctness, they should be packed up separately for each regiment or detachment. The schedules for detatchments on the march should be forwarded to the head-quarters of their regiment in Bengal; the schedules for regiments on the march should be forwarded to the Military authorities of the cantonments they were last stationed at. All schedules filled up, or received as above, by the Military authorities of any cantonment, should be sent by them to the Magistrate or Deputy Commissioner of the district in which the cantonments are situated, who will keep them with those of the civil portion of the cantonments as part of the census returns of his district.

11. Soldiers on leave, or travelling otherwise than with a regiment or detachment, and beyond military limits, will be enumerated together with the civil population of the place at which they may happen to be on the night of the census.

Detailed Instructions for the Census of Military Lines, &c.

1. *Appointment of enumerators.*—All the census papers of each regimental line or other separate military premises must be kept quite distinct. For each an enumerator must be appointed, who will take its census; or if it contains more than some 300 inhabitants, so that one man cannot conveniently go round it on the census night, it should be divided into blocks, and a separate enumerator appointed for each.

2. *Preparation of house lists.*—The first thing to be done after appointing the enumerators and settling clearly the boundaries of each man's block is to prepare a house list of all buildings within the limits which are used for human habitation. This list should be in the form given at the end of these instructions. If the lines have been divided into blocks, a separate list should be made for each block. If any building is very large and contains many separate dwellings occupied by distinct groups of people, each of these dwellings should be entered as a separate house. In columns 3 and 4 only those families should be entered who reside *as families* in the building. Single individuals living alone and without servants, such as unmarried privates, should not be shown as separate families. Military prisons, station or garrison cells or guard-rooms, must be counted as houses, and their inmates enumerated on the night of the census.

3. *Numbering of the houses.*—The number which is given to each house in the house list should then be painted upon the building in a conspicuous manner, so that it may be easily seen on the night of the census.

4. *Preliminary record.*—Beginning on the 7th February, or ten days before the final census, which will take place on the night of the 17th February 1881, each enumerator must go round his block and enter all its inhabitants in the book of schedules which will be supplied him, taking the houses one after another in order of their numbers. The schedules must be filled up exactly in accordance with the instructions which will be found at the beginning of the book. Some loose schedules will be supplied in addition to the books; and if there is not room in a book, it must be unstitched and more schedules stitched in at the end. Care must be taken that plenty of blank space is left for the entry of any newcomers who may be within the limits on the night of the census, but who were not entered in the first instance. The whole of these entries must be most carefully checked and corrected if necessary by a responsible officer, who should initial each page when he has satisfied himself of its correctness, and enter the number of pages on the docket outside the book.

5. *Private schedules.*—While the barracks, and regimental lines generally, will be enumerated as above explained by an enumerator, it will be competent to the Military authorities superintending the census in each cantonment to allow the inhabitants of private houses, officers' quarters, married quarters, and the like, the privilege of filling up their own schedules. These will be supplied in loose sheets with instructions for filling them up printed on the back, and they should be left at the house on the 15th of February. They will be filled up by the head of the house on the night of the 17th February. This privilege should be sparingly accorded, and should only be granted when it is perfectly certain that the schedules will be properly filled up in English.

6. *The actual census.*—On the night of the census, that is, of the 17th February 1881, after gun-fire each enumerator must go round with his book to each house entered in it, and alter the entries already made wherever any change has occurred; that is to say, he must cut out all the entries regarding persons who are not living at the time within the limits of his block, and must add all people who may then be living within them and have not already been entered, filling in all the columns carefully for each of such persons.

7. *Collection and submission of forms.*—On the morning of the 18th February each enumerator will go round and collect all the private schedules left by him under Rule 5. After satisfying himself that they are properly filled up, he will submit them with the books and schedules which he has himself filled up to the authorities from whom he originally received them.

* See para. 1 of detailed instructions below.

FORM OF HOUSE LIST.

House List of the *in the Cantonment of*

Serial No. of house.	Nature of house, *e.g.* barrack, guard-room, &c.	Name and occupation of head of each resident family.	REMARKS.

7.—INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING THE CENSUS OF THE FLOATING POPULATION IN SEAPORTS.

No. , dated Calcutta, the 10th January 1881.

From—J. A. BOURDILLON, Esq., Deputy Superintendent of Census Operations, Bengal,

To—The Magistrate-Collector of

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, for your information and guidance, a copy of the rules for the census in ports, together with spare copies for the use of the Port Officers in your district. You should lose no time in communicating with those officers, and in giving effect to the instructions now communicated.

2. For the census of boats and vessels of class A the ordinary boat enumerator's schedules in Bengali will suffice, while for the boats and vessels of class B commanded by a European, Eurasian, or English-speaking native, or foreigner, a modification of the English private schedule has been printed, of which a proper number of copies will be supplied to you.

3. For vessels of class B, of which the commander is a native, a form torn out of a book of Bengali boat schedules should be given, and the enumerator will have to explain how it should be filled up.

RULES FOR THE ENUMERATION OF THE FLOATING POPULATION IN PORTS.

1. ALL the recognised ports in Bengal have been arranged in order in the list appended to these rules, and they are divided, as will be seen, into (1) chief and (2) subordinate ports.

2. The census of the port of Calcutta will be taken by the Superintendent of River Police in that port under the superintendence of the Special Census Officer for Calcutta and the Suburbs. Each other chief port and each subordinate port which is considered large enough to require it should be made a supervisor's circle, and the officer set down as the chief port authority in each case should be appointed supervisor of the port circle. In the cases of Naraingunge, Morrelgunge, and Cox's Bazar, where there is no Port Officer, and in the case of each subordinate port which is considered large enough to justify the step, the chief customs officer of the port, or such person as the District Magistrate may direct, should be made supervisor.

3. Enumerators will be appointed under each supervisor, by whom they should be selected and nominated. Every supervisor and every enumerator must be supplied with a letter of appointment under the signature of the Magistrate of the district, as provided by section 4 of the Census Act (Act XIV of 1880) and the notification of the Government of Bengal dated the 22nd November 1880.

4. The population to be enumerated at each port under these rules consists of all persons sleeping on board boats and vessels within the port on the nights of the 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th of February 1881.

5. The boats and vessels alluded to above may be divided into two classes:—

(A) Boats and vessels of all kinds plying ordinarily within the limits of the port.

(B) Boats and vessels of all kinds ordinarily passing from port to port.

6. *The population on board boats and vessels of class* (*A*) will be enumerated precisely in the same manner as the boat population on board boats in rivers and khals, whether they are moored alongside or drawn up upon the quay, bank or shore, or are afloat, in the harbour or roadstead. The manner of this enumeration is described in the rules which accompanied my circular No. 12 and in the instructions which formed Appendix B to my circular No. 14.

7. *The population on board boats and vessels of class* (*B*) *will be enumerated in accordance with the following rules.*

8. The enumeration of the persons on board each boat or vessel will be carried out, not by the enumerator, but by the master of the boat or vessel, except in the rare cases where there is no one on board the vessel or boat who is able to write either English or Bengali; in those cases the enumerator must fill up the schedules. Every such master or head of a vessel or boat must, under section 5 of the Census Act, be supplied with an order directing him to take the census of the persons under his charge.

9. During the days of the 15th and 16th February 1881 the supervisor of the port circle, or some person specially appointed by him for the purpose, will visit every boat and vessel of this class then lying within the port limits. If the vessel will be in port on the night of the 17th February, or will have sailed before that date for some other port *in British India*, he will leave on board as many copies of the schedules as may be necessary for the enumeration of the persons on board. In the latter case the master should be told to fill up his schedules on the night of the 17th February and deliver them to the port supervisor at the first port he reaches. If the vessel will have left port before the evening of the 17th February for a port *not in British India*, no attempt should be made to enumerate the persons on board her.

10. The schedule used will be in English for all vessels and boats of which the master or head is a European, Eurasian or English-speaking native or foreigner, and will be in Bengali for all other boats.

11. During the night of the 17th February the master or head of the vessel or boat will enter in the schedules so left particulars of all the persons sleeping on board that night.

12. On the morning of the 18th February, the schedules thus filled in will be collected by the officer who distributed them, who should satisfy himself in the first place that they have been intelligently filled up. He will at the same time give to each master or head of the vessel or boat a red ticket in the prescribed form certifying that the persons on board have been enumerated. The master or head of the boat or vessel should be instructed to keep this ticket carefully, and to show it should any other person come to count his boat or vessel again. This will dispose of the vessels and boats in the port on the 17th February.

13. On the 18th, 19th, and 20th of February, in the same way the same officer will board every vessel or boat coming into the port. If she has come last from a port not in British India no notice need be taken of her. If she last touched at a port in British India and left it before the 17th February, the master will either have received his schedules to fill in, or he will have escaped enumeration altogether. In the first case he will deliver to the census officer his schedules duly filled up; in the second case the census officer will immediately enumerate the persons on board.

14. On the docket of the books used, and upon the private schedules, whether in English or Bengali, the words "Port Census" should be written clearly. The schedules when filled up will be tied up together in bundles, both those in Bengali and those in English, and will be forwarded by the supervisor to the Magistrate of the district and submitted by him with the papers for his district. All persons counted on board vessels and boats will be considered to belong to the district within the limits of which they have been enumerated.

List of Seaports in the Lower Provinces of Bengal.

Chief Ports.	Subordinate Ports.	Acts which apply to Ports.		Chief Port authority.	Chief Customs Officer.
Calcutta ...	Nil ...	I—Of 1859 (I.C.) IV.—Of 1875 (I.C.) XIII.—Of 1876 (I.C.) XIII.—Of 1878 (I.C.)	Indian Merchant Shipping Acts.	Port Officer is the chief port authority for the approaches to the port (*i.e.* from Garden Reach to the Sandheads). The Port Commissioners are the chief port authority for the port proper (*i. e.* from the northern boundary of the port to Garden Reach).	Collector of Customs.
		VIII.—Of 1876 (I.C.)	Native Passenger Ships Act.		
		XII. -Of 1875 (I.C.)	Indian Ports Act.		
		V.—Of 1870 (B.C.)	Calcutta Port Improvement Act.		
		VIII.—Of 1878 (I.C.)	Customs Act.		
Chittagong ...	Nil ...	I.—Of 1859 (I.C.) IV.—Of 1875 (I.C.) XIII.—Of 1876 (I.C.) XIII.—Of 1878 (I.C.)	Indian Merchant Shipping Acts.	Port Officer ...	The Commissioner of Chittagong.
		VIII.—Of 1876 (I.C.)	Native Passenger Ships Act.		
		XII.- Of 1875 (I.C.)	Indian Ports Act.		
		VIII.—Of 1878 (I.C.)	Customs Act.		
Balasore ...	Chanua ... Churaman ... Laichanpur ... Sartha ... Subarnrekha ..	Ditto	ditto ...	Port Officer of Balasore and Chandbally.	
Dhamra ...	Chandbally ... Hansooa .. Al or Rajbaree ... Putta Moondai ...	Ditto	ditto ...	Ditto ...	The Commissioner of Orissa is the Chief Customs Officer in the ports of Orissa.
False Point or Cuttack.	Nil ...	Ditto	ditto ...	Port Officer of False Point and Pooree.	
Pooree ...	Davee ... Futtypore ... Mentaccoah ... Nundla ... Sahanda ...	Ditto	ditto ...	Ditto ...	
Naraingunj ...	Is a customs port ...	Ditto	ditto ...	Nil ...	Commissioner of Dacca.
Morrellgunge ...	Ditto ...	Ditto	ditto ...	Do. ...	Collector of Customs, Calcutta.
Cox's Bazar ...	Ditto ...	Ditto	ditto ...	Do. ...	Commissioner of Chittagong.

8.—INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING AND FORWARDING THE SCHEDULES AFTER THE CENSUS.

Circular No. 33, dated Calcutta, the 1st February 1881.

From—J. A. BOURDILLON, ESQ., Deputy Superintendent of Census Operations Bengal,

To—The

I HAVE the honour to invite your attention to the following instructions for the collection and submission of the enumerators' schedules after the census has been finally taken on the night of the 17th instant.

2. The principle on which they are to be collected is a very simple one, and it is this, that *the schedules for each census area are to be kept together*. The block being an artificial area, instituted only for administrative reasons, will no longer be maintained, and the census unit will now be the village. All the papers therefore for one village will be tied up together, so will all the packets of papers for villages in one circle, and so will all the bundles for circles in one charge or thannah. The thannah packages will be kept separate from each other, and you will have to see that in each thannah package the books for each village, circle, and charge, if any, will be kept complete and distinct.

3. On the morning of the 18th February, except where, as a special case, the final enumeration is to take place on that morning, or where the census is to be non-synchronous, each enumerator must first collect the private schedules in his block, if any, and then go through his own book or books to see that they are correctly filled up. In particular, he must see that the headings of each page and the blank spaces in the dockets are properly filled in. He will then take or send the books for his block to the supervisor of his circle, with a manuscript *challan* showing the number of books and loose schedules sent, and distinguishing between the house and the boat papers: this *challan*, signed and returned by the supervisor to the enumerator, will be his receipt for the books sent in. Where there are any private schedules

or loose sheets they must be stitched, or otherwise attached, to the books of the block to which they belong.

4. Each supervisor, before sending on any books at all, must collect the whole of those relating to all the villages in his circle. The books must be arranged village by village according to the serial order in which they stand in the circle and in column 1 of register B, and they must be tied up village by village for the whole circle. They should then be sent in to the Superintendent of the charge. Each despatch of books for a circle must be accompanied by a list in the form E. given below, showing the name and number of each village and the number of books forwarded for each, the whole being signed by the supervisor. *This form will be kept permanently with the bundle of books for the circle.* It will be the duty of the Superintendent, before giving the supervisor the receipt at foot of the form, to examine the bundle and to see that its contents tally with the supervisor's list.

5. In the same way the Superintendent of each charge must collect together the bundles of books for all the circles in his charge, and submit them all together to the subdivisional officer or Magistrate of the district, as the case may be, with a list in form F, showing the number of circles and villages and the number of books forwarded for each. Details of villages need not be given in this form, which, like form E, will be diglot.

6. All schedules from subdivisions must be sent in to the district officer before they are submitted to the central offices for tabulation, in order that he may satisfy himself that these instructions have been properly carried out. They must not be sent to the central tabulating office direct. When he has so satisfied himself, and by comparison with his village register B has convinced himself that no village has been omitted, the district officer will pack and despatch all the schedules to the appointed central office in the following manner.

7. All the books and schedules must be packed together in bundles thannah by thannah. Within the thannah bundles will be in some cases the charge bundles; within the charge bundles the circle bundles; within the circle bundles the sub-circle bundles; and lastly, within the sub-circle bundles the packet or packets for each village by itself. If possible the bundle for each thannah should be made a separate package, or, at any rate, two or more complete thannah bundles should be packed together. Each thaunah bundle must be accompanied by a list of the villages comprised in it, and a statement of the number of books and schedules for each in the form G, given below. No pains should be spared to make this list exact, as it will be the main check on the tabulators to guard against the loss of any papers or omission of any village. A duplicate copy of each of these thannah lists must also be kept in the district office, to meet cases of loss or destruction of the original lists. This precaution must not be omitted on any account.

8. Private schedules, books and schedules for public institutions, and for boats, railways, ports, cantonments, fairs, and travellers, must all be tied up in the same way with the books for the villages, circles, charges, and thannahs to which they belong.

9. Each bundle of books should be tied with string lengthways and across. The packages should, as much as possible, be packed in the boxes which brought the schedules to you from Calcutta, and these should be sent to their destination by the best available way in each case. All possible care must be taken to protect them from damp and other injury.

10. There will be three central offices for tabulation of the returns—viz at Calcutta, Bankipore, and Cuttack. All books and schedules from districts in the Divisions of Patna, Bhagulpore, and Chota Nagpore, and from the Tributary Mehals of the latter Division, should be forwarded to the Collector of Patna, Bankipore. Those from the districts of the Orissa Division and from the Tributary Mehals of Orissa will be forwarded to the Collector of Cuttack at that station. Books and schedules from all other districts will be sent to me in Calcutta. Labels for these packages will be forwarded to you, and also a sufficient supply of the three kinds of *challan*. Packages should be sent "Bearing carriage," and when a package is despatched intimation by post-card should be sent to the office of address.

11. I have now only to ask that the books may be collected and sent into the central offices with as much speed as is consistent with the testing required. My office in Calcutta will open on the 1st March, and I hope by that time to have received enough books from neighbouring districts to make a beginning. The other offices will be started as soon after that date as possible. Thannah packages for some thannahs may be sent in separately without waiting till all are ready. The tabulation of the returns for seventy millions of people is so stupendous an undertaking that it cannot be begun too soon.

No. 9.—EXPLANATION OF THE VILLAGE TABLES.

Circular No. 49, dated Calcutta, the 10th January 1882.

From—J. A. BOURDILLON, Esq., Dy. Supdt. of Census Operations, Bengal,

To—The

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have directed the Branch Superintendent in charge of the Central Census Office to which your schedules were sent to forward to you the original *village tables* for your district, and I beg to invite your attention to the following remarks in respect of them, and of the way in which they have been prepared.

2. When the books of *census schedules* for your district were received in the Central Office, where they were to be tabulated, they were first carefully compared in the record-room thannah by thannah with your challan form G. After this scrutiny each book in the thannah received a serial number, and they were again tied up village by village as originally received from you. To each section of abstractors, as it became ready to receive them, the books for an entire thannah were made over for abstracting. As the books were abstracted they were tied up again village by village, and when the abstracting was over, and the working registers prepared during the process had been checked, the books of each thannah were returned *en bloc* to the record-room and stored there for future reference. When so returned they were accompanied by a challan stating what books, if any, were missing, and the record-keeper had in every case to give a receipt for the books he received. You will thus see that the greatest pains were taken to prevent the confusion together of books of different thannahs, or of books of different villages in the same thannah.

3. The *working registers*, into which the contents of the schedule books were first abstracted, were, as their name implies, rough sheets of paper, showing on each information of a different kind. They were seven in number. All the information given in the schedules for each person was thus rearranged in these working registers, in each of which a stroke in the proper column represented one person in the schedule. One set of working registers was used for each village or block, so that while the unit of the working register was the individual, the total at foot of the page was the total of the village or block. Omitting the two minor working registers, which showed the infirmities of the people and the sects of Christians, every person was entered once in his proper place in each of the other five working registers, which therefore gave corresponding totals. These totals were carefully checked and made to agree, so that by the time this process was over the exact transfer to the proper working register had been secured of all the information that the schedules afforded.

4. The next step towards the compilation of the final census forms was the tabulation of the *village tables* from the working registers. These tables, prepared thannah by thannah, show in greater detail the information collected in the working registers; and whereas the unit in the working registers was the individual, and the total was the total of the village, the unit in the village tables is the village or block, and the totals are those for the thannah. For facility of comparison and check the villages or blocks in each thannah were arranged in sets of 30 on a page, so that the same 30 villages or blocks, as a reference to the village tables will show you, appear on the corresponding pages of each kind of village table, and the corresponding totals agree not only for each village, but for each set or page of villages. Thus the number of Hindus or Mahomedans in any village, or set of villages, in the village tables showing age and sex, will be found to tally with the number of Hindus or Mahomedans in all the other village tables for the same village or set of villages. except the very few tables, such as those showing infirmities, where it is obvious that only part of the population will appear. The accurate preparation of these village tables has been a very laborious work, but it has been successfully achieved, and I am satisfied that the correspondence between the tables is so well maintained, and that they represent so accurately the facts recorded in the enumerators' schedules, that I have no hesitation in recommending them to district officers as perfectly reliable.

5. From these village tables *abstracts* have been made for each thannah. In these the set was the unit, and the total of each page or set of villages was entered along one line. From these abstracts, which have been sent to the head office in Calcutta, the *final forms* are being prepared. These forms are more numerous than the village tables, and show in greater detail the information which the latter provide—the unit in each is the thannah, and the total is the total for the district. Lastly, in the statements which will be printed in the Census Report, only the district totals of each kind of information will appear. except in the case of three important statements, in which thannah figures will be printed. You will thus see how the information, originally entered in the enumerators' schedules, has been carried on from one kind of form to another, with the unit of each form increasing in size, and the information given spreading into wider detail; from the schedules themselves into the *working registers*, from the working registers into the *village tables*, from them into their *abstracts*, from the abstracts into the *final forms*, and again from them into the printed statements of the report.

6. The arrangements made for the disposal of the mass of papers thus prepared are these. To return the original schedules to the districts whence they came would be both expensive and unnecessary: they are therefore being sold, after being mutilated in such a manner that their contents cannot be made use of for any illicit purpose. The working registers are being disposed of in a similar manner. The village tables in original are being forwarded to district officers, and will be followed by the thannah abstracts as soon as they have been posted into the final forms. These last will be kept for permanent record in the Census Office or in the Statistical Department of the Bengal Secretariat. By this means the information which it is most important for him to know will always be easily available for each officer. From the village tables a district officer can obtain any of the information recorded in the schedules which he may wish to have for any village or block in any thannah of his district, while the thannah abstracts give him the totals for all the different items in each thannah. On the other hand, the final forms will provide the Secretariat in Calcutta with the thannah and district figures for each subject on which information may be needed, and the public will find district and provincial figures in the printed statement appended to my final report.

7. As district officers will be chiefly concerned with the village tables, and as I am confident that they provide a mass of very useful information, I offer the following few explanatory remarks concerning them.

8. The village tables are seventeen in number, and are lettered from A to P, both inclusive. Every table shows the population by sexes, except J, which is divided into two parts, for males and for females. *Village Table A* is a general table, showing for each village and block the total of houses occupied and unoccupied, the total of males and females irrespective of religion, and the total figures for the resident and non-resident population. *Village Table B* shows separately for each religion entered in the schedules the ages (in ten periods of life) and conjugal condition of its followers. A separate sheet of the table is given for each religion, thus B—1 is for Hindus; B—2 for Mahomedans; B—3 for Christians, and so on. *Village Table BB* is a summary form, and shows for the whole thnnah the number of persons of each religion who are single, married, or widowed, irrespective of their ages. *Village Table* C is intended mainly for the exhibition of the ages of the people: like B it is prepared by religions, C—1 being for Hindus, C—2 for Mahomedans, and so on ; but as age is the principal feature of the form, the ages are exhibited in greater detail, viz. in eighteen periods instead of ten as in Village Table B.

9. *Village Tables D, E, and G* are special forms for different religions, the first showing the sects of Mahomedans, the second those of Christians, and the third the castes of Hindus. The only point to be noticed about Village Table E is that it is arranged in separate sheets for each *race* of Christians ; about Village Table G it is to be observed that it has been prepared in concert with Village Tables B and C, and in strict accordance with the information in the schedules. Those persons who have entered themselves as professing the Hindu religion have been shown as Hindus in B, C, and G, even though in the common acceptation their Hinduism may be open to doubt. *Village Table F*, like BB, is a summarising form, and shows the totals of males and females in each religion.

10. *Village Tables H and I* are intended to show the nationality of the people by displaying the mother-tongue and the birth-place of the persons found in each district. *Village Table J* is divided into two parts, for the occupations of malesand of females. In each table the occupations are shown separately for Hindus, Mahomedans, and all others. The endeavour has been made to show in detail every occupation given in the schedule, and the labour of doing so has been very great. *Village Table K* shows the educational attainments of the people by religion. *Village Tables L to O* give the numbers for each religion of persons who are either insane, lepers, blind, or deaf-mutes. The total of these four village tables of course differs from that of the other tables. Lastly, *Village Table P* is a form which has been prescribed for comparing the ages of the people at the present census with the ages returned at the census of 1872. At that time the population was divided into two categories, viz. under and over 12, and the only religions shown were the Hindu, Mahomedan, Christian, and Buddhist, all persons belonging to none of these religions being grouped together as "Others:" for purposes of exact comparison the same divisons have again been adopted.

11. In conclusion, I have only to remind you that these village tables are forwarded to you for permanent record, and to ask that they may be very carefully kept. Not only are they likely to be very useful to you from time to time, but they will certainly be required for reference at the time of the next census. The village tables for each thannah are enclosed in a strong portfolio, and these may be forwarded to the head-quarters of each subdivision or retained at head-quarters, as you may think best. The village tables prepared in Calcutta are all in English ; of those prepared at Dinapore a great part are in Kaithi, while most of those prepared at Cuttack are in Uriya. The thannah abstracts in every case have been made in English.

PART II.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE.

A.—Cost of Preliminary Work and Actual Enumeration (paid during 1880-81, 1881-82, *and* 1882-83).

Details.	Mofussil.	Calcutta Central Office.	Calcutta Special Census Officer's Office.	Railway.	Total.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Salaries of officers	.....	1,200 0 0	*1,500 0 0*	.....	*2,700 0 0*
2. Do. of supervisors, enumerators, &c. ...	*8,761 7 5*	.....	*10,375 11 6*	991 15 11	*20,129 2 10*
3. Office establishment ...	*21,504 2 1*	2,776 7 6	*297 10 8*	.....	*24,578 4 3*
4. Office rent	.....	225 0 0	.....	.....	*225 0 0*
5. Contingencies	*19,214 5 9*	5,964 8 2	*1,899 4 8*	178 10 0	*27,256 12 7*
6. Travelling allowance ...	*9,931 8 6*	138 12 0	.....	.....	*10,070 4 6*
7 Petty construction and repairs	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
8. Service postage	.....	687 9 0	.....	.....	*687 9 0*
9. Stationery	*100 4 0*	.....	.....	.....	*100 4 0*
10. Printing and paper	.....	1,02,174 1 6	.....	.....	*1,02,174 1 6*
Total ...	59,511 11 9	1,13,166 6 2	14,072 10 10	1,170 9 11	1,87,921 6 8

B.—Cost of Compiling the Returns.

Details.	Calcutta Central Office.	Calcutta Special Census Officer's Office.	Dinapore Branch Office.	Cuttack Branch Office.	Total.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Salaries of officers	*10,248 13 0*	2,758 1 0	*1,173 8 0*	551 10 8	*14,732 0 8*
2. Office establishment ...	*3,34,225 4 7*	8,758 5 6	*1,53,837 4 1*	48,892 11 2	*5,45,713 9 4*
3. Office rent	*23,535 3 4*	1,042 13 9	*2,801 6 7*	.....	*27,379 7 8*
4. Contingencies	*12,743 5 5*	256 15 6	*11,149 3 0*	3,040 1 3	*27,189 9 2*
5. Travelling allowance ...	*1,050 12 3*	.....	*437 5 7*	.....	*1,488 1 10*
6. Petty construction and repairs	*107 2 3*	.....	.....	.....	*107 2 3*
7. Service postage	*675 6 0*	.....	.....	.....	*675 6 0*
8. Stationery	*812 14 6*	.....	*191 14 7*	109 6 9	*1,114 3 10*
9. Printing and paper	*48,261 5 6*	1,065 1 0	.....	.....	*49,326 6 6*
Total ...	4,31,660 2 10	13,881 4 9	1,69,590 9 10	52,593 13 10	6,67,725 15 3
Grand Total of A and B					8,55,647 5 11

C.—Detailed Statement of Expenditure under heading A (Preliminary Work and Actual Enumeration) for Calcutta.

	Salaries of officers.	Office establishment.	Paid Supervisors, &c.	House rent.	Travelling allowance.	Stationery.	Contingencies.	Cost of printing and paper.	Total.	REMARKS.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Calcutta Central Office	1,200 0 0	2,776 7 6	.....	225 0 0	138 12 0	.....	6,652 1 2	1,02,174 1 6	1,13,166 6 2	1880-81.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*1,200 0 0*	*2,776 7 6*	.....	*225 0 0*	*138 12 0*	.....	*6,652 1 2*	*1,02,174 1 6*	*1,13,166 6 2*	
Office of the Special Census Officer for Calcutta	1,500 0 0	297 10 8	10,375 11 6	.....	.....	.....	1,879 4 8	.....	14,052 10 10	1880-81.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20 0 0	.....	20 0 0	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*1,500 0 0*	*297 10 8*	*10,375 11 6*	.....	.....	.....	*1,899 4 8*	.....	*14,072 10 10*	
East Indian Railway and Northern Bengal State Railway	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1880-81.
	.....	.....	991 15 11	.....	.....	.....	178 10 0	.....	1,170 9 11	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	.....	.....	*991 15 11*	.....	.....	.....	*178 10 0*	.....	*1,170 9 11*	
TOTAL, THREE OFFICES ...	2,700 0 0	3,074 2 2	11,367 11 5	225 0 0	138 12 0	.....	8,729 15 10	1,02,174 1 6	1,28,409 10 11	

C.—Detailed Statement of Expenditure under heading B (Cost of Compiling the Returns)—concluded.

	Salaries of officers.	Office establishment.	House rent.	Travelling allowance.	Contingencies.	Cost of printing and paper.	Cost of stationery.	Total.	Remarks.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1880-81.
Calcutta Central Office	6,648 13 0	3,12,200 10 0	22,459 15 4	1,050 12 3	11,813 0 3	31,214 2 11	743 15 6	3,86,131 5 3	1881-82.
	3,600 0 0	22,024 10 7	1,075 4 0	.....	1,712 13 5	17,047 2 7	68 15 0	45,528 13 7	1882-83.
Total ...	***10,248 13 0***	***3,34,225 4 7***	***23,535 3 4***	***1,050 12 3***	***13,525 13 8***	***48,261 5 6***	***812 14 6***	***4,31,660 2 10***	
	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	1880-81.
Dinapore Branch Office	1,173 8 0	1,53,837 4 1	2,801 6 7	437 5 7	10,763 10 8	.....	191 14 7	1,69,205 1 6	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	385 8 4	.....	.....	385 8 4	1882-83.
Total ...	***1,173 8 0***	***1,53,837 4 1***	***2,801 6 7***	***437 5 7***	***11,149 3 0***	.....	***191 14 7***	***1,69,590 9 10***	
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1880-81.
Cuttack Branch Office	501 10 8	48,691 0 10	.....	.....	3,025 3 4	.....	109 6 9	52,327 5 7	1881-82.
	50 0 0	201 10 4	.....	.....	14 13 11	.....	.....	266 8 3	1882-83.
Total ...	***551 10 8***	***48,892 11 2***	.....	....	***3,040 1 3***	.....	***109 6 9***	***52,593 13 10***	
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1880-81.
Calcutta and Suburbs	2,758 1 0	8,758 5 6	1,042 13 9	.....	256 15 6	1,065 1 0	.....	13,881 4 9	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	***2,758 1 0***	***8,758 5 6***	***1,042 13 9***	.....	***256 15 6***	***1,065 1 0***	.....	***13,881 4 9***	
TOTAL, ALL OFFICES ...	14,732 0 8	5,45,713 9 4	27,379 7 8	1,488 1 10	27,972 1 5	49,326 6 6	1,114 3 10	6,67,725 15 3	

D.—Detailed Statement of Census Expenditure under heading A for Mofussil.

District.	Office establishment.	Paid supervisors, &c.	Travelling allowance.	Stationery.	Contingencies.	Total.	
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Burdwan	387 7 6	.....	392 10 11	.....	483 12 3	1,263 14 8	1880-81.
	93 13 11	.....	697 13 8	.....	245 2 0	1,036 13 7	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*481 5 5*	.....	*1,090 8 7*	.....	*728 14 3*	*2,300 12 3*	
Bankoorah	35 13 0	.....	.....	.....	62 11 9	98 8 9	1880-81.
	297 3 4	.....	1 4 0	.....	73 14 6	372 5 10	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	19 11 3	19 11 3	1882-83.
Total ...	*333 0 4*	.....	*1 4 0*	.....	*156 5 6*	*490 9 10*	
Beerbhoom	197 6 8	.....	132 11 9	.....	125 4 0	455 6 5	1880-81.
	57 14 5	.....	3 9 0	.....	13 5 6	74 12 11	1881-82.
	.....	.....	3 9 0	.....	.....	3 9 0	1882-83.
Total ...	*255 5 1*	.....	*139 13 9*	.....	*138 9 6*	*533 12 4*	
Midnapore	551 8 4	.....	.....	.....	73 6 6	624 14 10	1880-81
	218 10 9	.....	432 7 8	.....	664 11 6	1,315 13 11	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*770 3 1*	.....	*432 7 8*	.....	*738 2 0*	*1,940 12 9*	
Hooghly	496 15 0	8 0 0	56 1 6	.....	614 10 0	1,175 10 6	1880-81.
	150 1 4	.....	114 3 3	.....	47 5 6	311 10 1	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*647 0 4*	*8 0 0*	*170 4 9*	.....	*661 15 6*	*1,487 4 7*	
Howrah	368 12 1	.....	75 0 0	.....	911 13 3	1,355 9 4	1880-81.
	4 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	4 0 0	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*372 12 1*	.....	*75 0 0*	.....	*911 13 3*	*1,359 9 4*	
Total for the Burdwan Division ..	2,859 10 4	8 0 0	1,909 6 9	.....	3,335 12 0	8,112 13 1	
24-Pergunnahs ...	304 6 9	.....	.....	.....	24 0 0	328 6 9	1880-81.
	114 10 5	5,000 0 0	.....	.....	700 12 6	5,815 6 11*	
	259 5 6	.....	453 8 3	.....	105 13 9	818 11 6	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*678 6 8*	*5,000 0 0*	*453 8 3*	.....	*830 10 3*	*6,962 9 2*	
Nuddea	99 12 4	.....	15 13 1	.....	125 10 9	241 4 2	1880-81.
	138 12 0	.....	149 13 0	.....	495 9 9	784 2 9	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	18 10 9	18 10 9	1882-83.
Total ...	*238 8 4*	.....	*165 10 1*	.....	*639 15 3*	*1,044 1 8*	

* Whole cost of taking the Census of the Suburbs of Calcutta.

District.	Office establishment.	Paid supervisors, &c.	Travelling allowance.	Stationery.	Contingencies.	Total.	
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Jessore...	618 10 8	51 9 11	91 8 0	20 12 0	232 9 0	1,015 1 7	1880-81.
	41 12 3	.....	324 8 0	.....	418 0 9	784 5 0	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*660 6 11*	*51 9 11*	*416 0 0*	*20 12 0*	*650 9 9*	*1,799 6 7*	
Moorshedabad ...	610 13 4	.....	52 0 11	.....	109 9 9	772 8 0	1880-81.
	241 9 5	.....	150 1 6	.....	115 15 3	507 10 2	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*852 6 9*	.....	*202 2 5*	.....	*225 9 0*	*1,280 2 2*	
Total for the Presidency Division ...	2,429 12 8	5,051 9 11	1,237 4 9	20 12 0	2,346 12 3	11,086 3 7	
Dinagepore	205 5 4	.....	99 0 0	.....	223 12 6	528 1 10	1880-81.
	176 2 0	.....	.....	.....	14 0 0	190 2 0	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*381 7 4*	.....	*99 0 0*	.....	*237 12 6*	*718 3 10*	
Rajshahye	178 8 4	.....	28 7 6	.....	42 13 0	249 12 10	1880-81.
	130 5 2	.....	29 7 9	.....	.....	159 12 11	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*308 13 6*	.....	*57 15 3*	.....	*42 13 0*	*409 9 9*	
Rungpore	297 8 5	.....	102 0 0	.....	406 3 0	805 11 5	1880-81.
	189 5 4	.....	301 8 0	.....	180 13 9	671 11 1	1881-82.
	.....	.....	122 5 6	.....	.....	122 5 6	1882-83.
Total ...	*486 13 9*	.....	*525 13 6*	.....	*587 0 9*	*1,599 12 0*	
Bogra	.....	.....	.....	28 2 3	29 12 0	57 14 3	1880-81.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	.....	.....	.....	*28 2 3*	*29 12 0*	*57 14 3*	
Pubna	121 1 5	111 0 0	81 8 10	.....	160 2 3	473 12 6	1880-81.
	148 11 0	8 0 0	176 13 3	.....	92 5 6	425 13 9	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*269 12 5*	*119 0 0*	*258 6 1*	.....	*52 7 9*	*899 10 3*	
Darjeeling	46 9 9	28 4 2	34 13 3	.....	116 13 5	226 8 7	1880-81.
	296 5 0	.....	82 3 6	.....	100 13 0	479 5 6	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*342 14 9*	*28 4 2*	*117 0 9*	.....	*217 10 5*	*705 14 1*	

District.	Office establishment.	Paid supervisors, &c.	Travelling allowance.	Stationery.	Contingencies.	Total.	
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Julpigoree	272 3 10	.....	70 2 6	.....	67 8 0	409 14 4	1880-81.
	268 12 10	.....	.....	.....	34 11 4	303 8 2	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*541 0 8*	.....	*70 2 6*	.....	*102 3 4*	*713 6 6*	
Total for the Rajshahye Division ...	2,330 14 5	147 4 2	1,128 6 1	28 2 3	1,469 11 9	5,104 6 8	
Dacca	289 15 11	.....	37 7 0	.....	460 13 3	788 4 2	1880-81.
	228 7 9	.....	.....	.....	5 15 9	234 7 6	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*518 7 8*	.....	*37 7 0*	.....	*466 13 0*	*1,022 11 8*	
Furreedpore	251 10 6	.....	.....	25 6 3	36 0 3	313 1 0	1880-81.
	105 10 3	.....	40 0 0	.....	974 2 2	1,119 12 5	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*357 4 9*	.....	*40 0 0*	*25 6 3*	*1,010 2 5*	*1,432 13 5*	
Backergunge	636 9 0	.....	1,491 9 0	.....	395 15 9	2,524 1 9	1880-81.
	.....	.....	133 11 0	.....	7 10 0	141 5 0	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ..	*636 9 0*	.....	*1,625 4 0*	.....	*403 9 9*	*2,665 6 9*	
Mymensingh	886 3 5	.....	19 8 0	.....	893 4 3	1,798 15 8	1880-81.
	219 9 0	.....	67 4 0	.....	214 2 9	500 15 9	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*1,105 12 5*	.....	*86 12 0*	.....	*1,107 7 0*	*2,299 15 5*	
Total for the Dacca Division.	2,618 1 10	.....	1,789 7 0	25 6 3	2,988 0 2	7,420 15 3	
Tipperah	285 0 0	.....	247 5 0	.....	421 3 10	953 8 10	1880-81.
	189 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	189 0 0	1881-82.
	.....	50 11 9	120 10 0	.....	20 9 6	191 15 3	1882-83.
Total ..	*474 0 0*	*50 11 9*	*367 15 0*	.....	*441 13 4*	*1,334 8 1*	
Noakholly	.....	.....	.....	.....	207 3 3	207 3 3	1880-81.
	515 14 8	.....	.....	.....	45 6 0	561 4 8	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*515 14 8*	.....	.....	.....	*252 9 3*	*768 7 11*	
Chittagong	253 1 11	.....	.....	.....	372 0 0	625 1 11	1880-81.
	262 10 0	.....	17 0 0	.....	251 8 0	531 2 0	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*515 11 11*	.....	*17 0 0*	.....	*623 8 0*	*1,156 3 11*	

District.	Office establishment.	Paid supervisors, &c.	Travelling allowance.	Stationery.	Contingencies.	Total.	
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Chittagong Hill Tracts	74 3 1	79 4 6	.....	.....	100 0 0	253 7 7	1880-81.
	100 0 0	819 3 0	329 0 0	.....	4 5 0	1,252 8 0	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*174 3 1*	*898 7 6*	*329 0 0*	.....	*104 5 0*	*1,505 15 7*	
Total for the Chittagong Division.	1,679 13 8	949 3 3	713 15 0	.....	1,422 3 7	4,765 3 6	
Patna	100 0 0	.....	56 12 9	.....	141 8 0	298 4 9	1880-81.
	74 11 4	.....	5 8 0	.....	323 14 0	404 1 4	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*174 11 4*	.....	*62 4 9*	.....	*465 6 0*	*702 6 1*	
Gya	660 7 7	.....	35 10 3	.....	84 14 3	781 0 1	1880-81.
	589 6 10	.....	76 1 0	.....	45 10 0	711 1 10	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*1,249 14 5*	.....	*111 11 3*	.....	*130 8 3*	*1,492 1 11*	
Shahabad	682 10 8	.....	64 9 6	5 13 9	233 13 6	886 15 5	1880-81.
	285 8 8	.....	41 5 3	.....	160 9 1	487 7 0	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*868 3 4*	.....	*10514 9*	*5 13 9*	*394 6 7*	*1,374 6 5*	
Mozufferpore	114 10 1	.....	.....	.....	94 15 6	209 9 7	1880-81.
	168 9 9	.....	30 0 0	.....	94 9 0	293 2 9	1881-82.
	20 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	20 0 0	1882-83.
Total ...	*303 3 10*	.....	*30 0 0*	.....	*189 8 6*	*522 12 4*	
Durbhunga	94 3 0	.....	21 8 0	.....	166 10 4	282 5 4	1880-81.
	515 8 11	.....	8 0 0	.....	81 1 5	604 10 4	1881-82.
	8 0 0	.....	173 14 0	.....	8 9 0	190 7 0	1882-83.
Total ...	*617 11 11*	.....	*203 6 0*	.....	*256 4 9*	*1,077 6 8*	
Sarun	370 1 0	52 0 0	280 14 9	.....	264 3 10	967 3 7	1880-81.
	25 0 0	.....	.....	.....	3 7 0	28 7 0	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ..	*395 1 0*	*52 0 0*	*280 14 9*	.....	*267 10 10*	*995 10 7*	
Chumparun	290 12 8	.....	17 4 0	.....	79 5 0	387 5 8	1880-81.
	172 7 11	90 0 0	165 0 0	.....	198 6 0	625 13 11	1881-82.
	.....	.....	39 9 1	.....	.....	39 9 1	1882-83.
Total ...	*463 4 7*	*90 0 0*	*221 13 1*	.....	*277 11 0*	*1,052 12 8*	
Total for the Patna Division.	4,072 2 5	142 0 0	1,016 0 7	5 13 9	1,981 7 11	7,217 8 8	

District.	Office establishment.	Paid supervisors, &c.	Travelling allowance.	Stationery.	Contingencies.	Total.	
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Monghyr	75 10 1	.....	2 10 0	.....	150 4 0	228 8 1	1880-81.
	201 15 5	.....	104 5 6	.....	126 12 2	433 1 1	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*277 9 6*	.....	*106 15 6*	.....	*277 0 2*	*661 9 2*	
Bhaugulpore	555 3 8	.....	.....	.....	346 8 5	901 12 1	1880-81.
	323 10 1	.....	.....	.....	79 1 9	402 11 10	1881-82.
	10 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	10 0 0	1882-83.
Total ...	*888 13 9*	.....	.....	.....	*425 10 2*	*1,314 7 11*	
Purneah	183 0 0	.....	297 3 8	.....	351 12 0	831 15 8	1880-81.
	100 8 8	.....	83 14 0	.....	12 11 0	197 1 8	1881-82.
	13 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	13 0 0	1882-83.
Total ...	*296 8 8*	.....	*381 1 8*	.....	*364 7 0*	*1,042 1 4*	
Maldah	120 0 0	.....	289 4 0	.....	135 4 9	544 8 9	1880-81.
	316 3 7	.....	.....	.....	37 13 9	354 1 4	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*436 3 7*	.....	*289 4 0*	.....	*173 2 6*	*898 10 1*	
Sonthal Pergunnahs	214 0 4	985 5 3	136 0 4	19 2 3	215 12 8	1,570 4 10	1880-81.
	604 1 11	41 9 7	3 1 6	.....	76 11 0	725 8 0	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	16 10 5	16 10 5	1882-83.
Total ...	*818 2 3*	*1,026 14 10*	*139 1 10*	*19 2 3*	*309 2 1*	*2,312 7 3*	
Total for the Bhaugulpore Division.	2,717 5 9	1,026 14 10	916 7 0	19 2 3	1,549 5 11	6,229 3 9	
Cuttack...	531 0 0	.....	186 0 0	0 15 6	315 5 1	1,033 4 7	1880-81.
	260 12 1	.....	.....	.....	99 2 0	359 14 1	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	307 4 0	307 4 0	1882-83.
Total ...	*791 12 1*	.....	*186 0 0*	*0 15 6*	*721 11 1*	*1,700 6 8*	
Pooree	95 0 0	62 0 0	409 6 0	.....	307 4 8	873 10 8	1880-81.
	158 13 7	.....	74 0 0	.....	65 1 9	297 15 4	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*253 13 7*	*62 0 0*	*483 6 0*	.....	*372 6 5*	*1,171 10 0*	
Balasore	240 15 7	13 0 0	30 8 6	.....	305 10 10	590 2 11	1880-81.
	70 0 0	35 5 10	60 0 0	.....	48 2 6	213 8 4	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*310 15 7*	*48 5 10*	*90 8 6*	.....	*353 13 4*	*803 11 3*	
Total for the Orissa Division.	1,356 9 3	110 5 10	759 14 6	0 15 6	1,447 14 10	3,675 11 11	

District.	Office establishment.	Paid supervisors, &c.	Travelling allowance.	Stationery.	Contingencies.	Total.	
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Lohardugga	205 0 9	160 3 11	205 8 0	.....	662 10 6	1,233 7 2	1880-81.
	144 8 2	194 13 0	200 0 0	.....	47 5 0	586 10 2	1881-82.
	20 3 1	.....	.....	.....	5 6 0	25 9 1	1882-83.
Total ...	*369 12 0*	*355 0 11*	*405 8 0*	.....	*715 5 6*	*1,845 10 5*	
Hazaribagh	131 0 0	23 8 6	.....	.....	894 3 9	1,048 12 3	1880-81.
	237 12 6	.....	.....	.....	80 3 6	318 0 0	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*368 12 6*	*23 8 6*	.....	.....	*974 7 3*	*1,366 12 3*	
Singbhoom	.....	901 12 0	.....	.....	98 3 6	999 15 6	1880-81.
	.....	41 12 0	.....	.....	11 10 6	53 6 6	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	.....	*943 8 0*	.....	.....	*109 14 0*	*1,053 6 0*	
Manbhoom	129 11 6	.....	38 9 9	.....	282 7 3	450 12 6	1880-81.
	90 0 0	4 0 0	.....	.....	230 13 6	324 13 6	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	*219 11 6*	*4 0 0*	*38 9 9*	.....	*513 4 9*	*775 10 0*	
Total for the Chota Nagpore Division ...	958 4 0	1,326 1 5	444 1 9	.....	2,312 15 6	5,041 6 8	
Cooch Behar	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1880-81.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Hill Tipperah ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1880-81.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Tributary States, Orissa ...	161 14 0	.....	16 9 1	.....	99 9 7	278 0 8	1880-81.
	319 9 9	.....	.....	.....	94 8 3	414 2 0	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1882-83.
Total ..	*481 7 9*	.....	*16 9 1*	.....	*194 1 10*	*692 2 8*	
Tributary States, Chota Nagpore .	.....	.....	.....	.....	100 0 0	100 0 0	1880-81.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1881-82.
	.....	.....	.....	.....	66 0 0	66 0 0	1882-83.
Total ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	*166 0 0*	*166 0 0*	
Total for the Feudatory States ...	481 7 9	.....	16 9 1	.....	360 1 10	858 2 8	

E.—Summary of Mofussil Charges under heading A.

Divisions.	Office establishment.	Paid supervisors, &c.	Travelling allowance.	Stationery.	Contingencies.	Total.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Burdwan	2,859 10 4	8 0 0	1,909 6 9	.....	3,335 12 0	*8,112 13 1*
2. Presidency	2,429 12 8	5,051 9 11	1,237 4 9	20 12 0	2,346 12 3	*11,086 3 7*
3. Rajshahye	2,330 14 5	147 4 2	1,128 6 1	28 2 3	1,469 11 9	*5,104 6 8*
4. Dacca	2,618 1 10	.....	1,789 7 0	25 6 3	2,988 0 2	*7,420 15 3*
5. Chittagong	1,679 13 8	949 3 3	713 15 0	.....	1,422 3 7	*4,765 3 6*
6. Patna	4,072 2 5	142 0 0	1,016 0 7	5 13 9	1,981 7 11	*7,217 8 8*
7. Bhaugulpore	2,717 5 9	1,026 14 10	916 7 0	19 2 3	1,549 5 11	*6,229 3 9*
8. Orissa	1,356 9 3	110 5 10	759 14 6	0 15 6	1,447 14 10	*3,675 11 11*
9. Chota Nagpore	958 4 0	1,326 1 5	444 1 9	.....	2,312 15 6	*5,041 6 8*
10. Feudatory States	481 7 9	.....	16 9 1	.....	360 1 10	*858 2 8*
Total ...	*21,504 2 1*	*8,761 7 5*	*9,931 8 6*	*100 4 0*	*19,214 5 9*	*59,511 11 9*

F.—Statement showing the Receipts on account of Proceeds of Sale of Office Furniture, Waste Paper, and Census Schedules, &c., in the Calcutta Head Office, Dinapore, and Cuttack Branch Offices, and in District Offices.

	Proceeds of sale of office furniture.	Proceeds of sale of waste papers and census schedules.	Other miscellaneous receipts.	Total.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Deputy Superintendent's Office	1,977 4 3	1,819 10 0	47 10 9	*3,844 9 0*
Dinapore Branch ,, ...	2,599 8 0	1,030 2 3	.....	*3,629 10 3*
Cuttack Branch ,, ...	151 10 3	217 0 0	... ..	*368 10 3*
Mofussil offices	.....	505 12 3	.....	*505 12 3*
Total ...	4,728 6 6	3,572 8 6	47 10 9	*8,348 9 9*

PART III.

ADDITIONAL LISTS OF LARGE VILLAGES.

1. LIST OF MUNICIPALITIES WITH LESS THAN 5,000 INHABITANTS.
2. LIST OF VILLAGES WITH MORE THAN 5,000 INHABITANTS WHICH ARE NOT MUNICIPALITIES.

A.—Statement showing the Names and Population of those places which are Municipalities with less than 5,000 inhabitants, and whose population is shown as Town Population in Tables I, XII, and XXIX.

District.	Thannah.	Municipality.	Total Population.		
			Both Sex.	Male.	Female.
Bankoorah	Bishenpore	Joypore	2,420	1,207	1,213
Hooghly	Hooghly	Mugra	1,373	611	762
	Balagore	Guptipara	2,789	1,225	1,564
	Pandooa	Pandooa	3,344	1,656	1,688
	Goghat	Koergunge	1,667	791	876
24-Pergunnahs	Baripore	Baripore	3,742	1,895	1,847
Nuddea	Moheshpore	Moheshpore	3,105	1,437	1,668
	Ranaghat	Bernagar	4,321	1,947	2,374
	Harunghata	Jaguli	1,984	935	1,049
Khulna	Kalarua	Chanduria	3,445	1,701	1,744
Bogra	Sherpore	Sherpore	3,967	2,071	1,896
Darjeeling	Kurseong	Kurseong	4,033	2,643	1,390
Backergunge	Jhalokati	Jhalokati	1,463	1,163	300
	Nalchiti	Nalchiti	1,886	1,464	422
	Perozepore	Perozepore	2,590	1,532	1,058
Mymensing	Kotwali	Muktagacha	4,295	2,820	1,475
	Bazitpore	Bazitpore	4,641	2,232	2,409
Chittagong	Cox's Bazar	Cox's Bazar	4,363	1,887	2,476
Patna	Futwah	Nowada	3,323	1,560	1,763
Gya	Barachatti	Futtehpur	1,697	790	907
	Nowada	Nowada	4,812	2,244	2,568
	Aurungabad	Aurungabad	4,626	2,290	2,336
		Obra	2,584	1,240	1,344
	Nabinagar	Nabinagar	2,259	1,037	1,222
	Rajowli	Rajowli	4,488	2,260	2,228
Shahabad	Sasseeram	Sasseeram	2,531	1,194	1,337
	Ditto	Chenari	3,336	1,644	1,692
Chumparun	Madhuban	Mehsi	3,334	1,792	1,542
Maldah	Maldah	Maldah	4,694	2,252	2,442
Sonthal Pergunnahs	Dumka	Dumka	2,075	1,218	857
	Rajmehal	Rajmehal	3,839	1,829	2,010
Manbhoom	.....	Jhaldah	4,391	2,335	2,056
Lohardugga	.....	Lohardugga	3,461	1,721	1,740

B.—Statement showing the Names and Population of the Villages with 5,000 or more inhabitants which are not Municipalities, but are shown in Table No. XVIII.

District	Thannah.	Village.	Total Population.		
			Both Sex.	Male.	Female.
Dacca	Moonshiganj	Churjajeera	7,647	3,787	3,860
	Sreenagar	Sholaghar	6,079	2,648	3,431
		Kamarguon	5,770	2,534	3,236
	Nababganj	Narisha	6,377	2,898	3,479
Chittagong	Chittagong	Chundguon	5,276	2,602	2,674
		Pachlaish	5,689	2,653	3,036
		Halishahar	8,297	3,668	4,629
	Fatickcheri	Dharmapore	5,747	2,588	3,159
		Dhurung	5,599	2,707	2,892
		Kanchannagar	6,966	3,278	3,688

District.	Thannah.	Village.	Total Population.		
			Both Sex.	Male.	Female.
Chittagong—*concluded.*	Hathazari	Mekhal	*5,212*	2,497	2,715
		Madarsha	*5,961*	2,825	3,136
		Dholoe	*6,888*	3,342	3,546
		Chikandandi	*5,838*	2,679	3,159
	Patya	Gomdandi	*5,053*	2,385	2,668
	Raujan	Sultanpore	*6,374*	2,962	3,412
		Raujan	*5,560*	2,560	3,000
		Kodalpore	*5,675*	2,559	3,116
		Pomra	*5,392*	2,563	2,829
		Nayapara	*5,606*	2,496	3,110
		Guzara	*7,012*	3,287	3,725
	Banskhali	Jaldi	*6,162*	2,798	3,364
		Chambal	*5,000*	2,341	2,659
	Satkaneya	Baruhateya	*5,043*	2,242	2,801
	Chakariya	Harbhang	*5,668*	2,632	3,036
Noakholly	Lukhipore	Churmunsha	*7,363*	3,638	3,725
	Hatiya	Nulcheera	*5,974*	3,389	2,585
		Nilukhee	*6,930*	3,665	3,265
	Bamni	Moochapore	*7,933*	3,886	4,047
		Rampore	*5,800*	2,764	3,036
		Kakrachar	*6,478*	2,978	3,500
		Parbatichar	*5,593*	2,835	2,758
	Sundeep	Mushapore	*6,934*	3,229	3,705
Furreedpore	Shibchar	Kutoobpur	*7,458*	3,831	3,627
Monghyr	.....	Badiah	*11,679*	5,661	6,018
		Khootha	*5,095*	2,542	2,553
		Mathurapur	*5,130*	2,450	2,680
Bhaugulpore	.....	Sonbarsa	*5,237*	2,964	2,273
Cooch Behar	.....	Bara Haldibari	*5,200*	2,761	2,439
		Hemkumari	*6,713*	3,480	3,233
		Balarampur	*10,696*	5,526	5,170
		Situlkuchee	*8,924*	4,652	4,272

PART IV.

EXPLANATION OF THE CLASSIFICATION OF OCCUPATIONS.

SHORT EXPLANATION OF THE CLASSIFICATION OF OCCUPATIONS.

I.—Professional Class. (Orders 1, 2, 3.)

The three first Orders consist of civil servants, national or local; the army and navy; the learned professions, with their immediate subordinates; literary and scientific men, as well as artists in the widest sense.

The army (2; 1) and navy (2; 2) are in the service of the Government, and are intimately connected with it in all states. Like the medical, the literary, and the scientific professions, which were at one time included in the Church, and were supported by its livings, the clergy and lawyers assert their independence, and are therefore made separate Sub-orders. So are authors, artists, musicians, actors, teachers, and scientific men. Nearly all the members of the class are paid directly for their services; and these services are direct, being rarely fixed in any commodity. The pay varies in each Order, and it is either proportional to the time (salaries, wages, pay), the job (fees), or the quality and quantity of work done (piece-work).

II.—Domestic Class. (Orders 4 and 5.)

The persons in this Class are all employed, if they are employed at all, in houses. Some supply simply service, others with it supply board and lodging (Order 5). They are paid wages (servants), or they are paid for the board and lodging and attendance which they supply. The publicans and beer-sellers are so much associated and so often confounded with hotel and inn-keepers that they are retained in the same Order; although the Order dealing in "drinks" may claim them. Wives perform at home for the bulk of the population the same kind of duties as persons in Order 5 perform; but they are not paid directly in money for their services, as they form a part of the natural family; consequently they are distinguished in a separate Order (4).

III.—Commercial Class. (Orders 6 and 7.)

The merchant buys goods abroad, transports them to this country, and there sells them. As a merchant he effects no change in any of the commodities in which he deals. He simply buys as cheaply and sells as dearly as he can; and is thus paid for his services by a varying but rated profit on the goods.

The carrying order convey commodities, passengers, and messages by land or water, from one place to another. They also warehouse goods. They are paid for their services in fares, freight, and charges, which bear some proportion to the weight, bulk, and other properties of the goods. They are all in Order 7, and are closely related to the Order preceding; hence the two Orders (6-7) together may be called the Commercial Class.

IV.—Agricultural Class. (Orders 8 and 9.)

We now come to a great Class which is employed in producing grain, fruit, grass, animals, and other products from the soil. They may be called growers, for their products grow, and are obtained from the living kingdoms of nature. The heads of the Class are paid, not directly for their services, but indirectly in the price of the products which they sell in the market or elsewhere. Thus the price of a quarter of wheat includes the pay of the services of all the persons employed in its production or in the acquisition of the tools and machines, including the land, by means of which it is produced and brought to market. Agricultural servants and labourers are paid in wages, which the farmers advance. The persons engaged in gardens or woods are in separate Sub-orders.

The men in Order 9 are employed in catching, training, or dealing in living animals of various kinds. They are the representatives of the hunters of the early stages of civilisation, and may be considered an appendage to the previous pastoral and agricultural class; so forming Class IV.

V.—Industrial Class. (Orders 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15.)

This is the Class of makers or artisans. They deal in matter that is either no longer living, or that never lived. They alter the form, texture, or composition of the materials in which they work, so as to produce a great variety of new goods, instruments, and machines. Their pay and profits are charged in the price of commodities, the wages of the workmen being advanced by their masters.

This Classs classified according to the materials, distinguishing those derived from the three kingdom of nature.

The first Order of the Class includes artisans making products of various materias, derived sometimes from the three kingdoms, such as coaches, ships, workshops, factories, houses, and their furniture or other contents

Then follow the persons engaged in the textile fabrics. Wool, silk, cotton, flax, and hemp are durable and divisible, so they are particularly favourable to the subdivision of labour and the application of machinery. They constitute the essentially manufacturing class. In a Sub-order are the artisans who convert the textile fabrics and some other matters into dress.

Human food, drinks, and stimulants, derived from the animal and vegetable kingdoms, occupy a distinct Order, subdivided into three Sub-orders.

Then follow (**13**) the persons chiefly or exclusively working and dealing in animal substances, (**14**) those working and dealing in vegetable substances, and (**15**) those working and dealing chiefly in minerals and metals. The first Sub-order of the latter Order (15(includes the mining population of every kind; the other thirteen Sub-orders include the workers in the chief metals and minerals in use, beginning with coal and ending with steel.

VI.—Indefinite and Non-productive Class. (Orders **16, 17, 18.**)

The last Class includes the numbers returned in a vague way, so as to scarcely admit of classification among either the professional, the domestic, the commercial, the agricultural, or the industrial classes.

It embraces the totally distinct Order of general labourers, persons of property returned as of no occupation, and persons supported by the community.

PART V.

STATISTICS OF THE BRITISH SUBJECTS IN THE TERRITORY OF CHANDERNAGORE.

Table No. I.

General Statement showing the Area and Population of each Thannah.

Area in square miles	0
Number of towns and villages	1
Number of Houses—	
Occupied	306
Unoccupied	4
Total	310
Total population of both sexes	853
Total males	670
Total females	183
Number of persons per square mile	0
Number of towns or villages per square mile	0
Number of houses per square mile	0
Number of persons per occupied house	2·78

Table No. III.

Statement showing the Distribution of the Population according to Religion.

All Religions—	
Both sexes	853
Males	670
Females	183
Hindus—	
Both sexes	631
Males	486
Females	145
Mahomedans—	
Both sexes	197
Males	171
Females	26
Christians—	
Both sexes	25
Males	13
Females	12

Table No. IIIA.

Statement showing the Distribution of the Christian Population according to Race.

Part I.

Total of All Races—	
Both sexes	25
Males	13
Females	12
Other Europeans—	
Both sexes	1
Males	1
Females	0
Eurasians—	
Both sexes	8
Males	5
Females	3
Natives of India—	
Both sexes	4
Males	2
Females	2
Other Asiatics—	
Both sexes	3
Males	1
Females	2
All Others—	
Both sexes	9
Males	4
Females	5

Statement showing the Distribution of the Christian Population according to Sect.

PART II.

TOTAL OF ALL SECTS—	
Both sexes	25
Males	13
Females	12
PROTESTANT—	
Both sexes	14
Males	8
Females	6
ROMAN CATHOLIC—	
Both sexes	4
Males	2
Females	2
ARMENIAN—	
Both sexes	3
Males	1
Females	2
SECT NOT STATED—	
Both sexes	4
Males	2
Females	2

TABLE No. IIIA.

Statement showing the Distribution of the Christian Population by Race and Sect.

PART III.

SECT.	TOTAL OF ALL RACES.			OTHER EUROPEANS.			EURASIANS.			NATIVES OF INDIA.			OTHER ASIATICS.			ALL OTHERS.		
	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.	Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Protestant ...	14	8	6	1	1	..	8	5	3	...	...	...	..	...	...	5	2	3
Roman Catholic	4	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	2
Armenian ...	3	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	2	...	...	...
Sect not stated...	4	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ...	25	13	12	1	1	...	8	5	3	4	2	2	3	1	2	9	4	5

TABLE No. IIIB.

Statement showing the Sects of Mahomedans.

SUNNIS—	
Both sexes	189
Males	163
Females	26
SHIAHS—	
Both sexes	8
Males	8
Females	0
TOTAL—	
Both sexes	197
Males	171
Females	26

TABLE No. IV.

Statement showing the Relative Proportions of the Sexes and of the Main Religious Divisions of the Population.

Average number of persons in every 10,000 of the population who are—	
Males	7,854
Females	2,145
Hindus	7,397
Mahomedans	2,309
Christians	293
Average number of males in every 10,000—	
Hindus	7,253
Mahomedans	2,552
Christians	194

Table No. V.

Statement showing the Civil Condition of the Population.

Single—	
Both sexes	185
Males	148
Females	37
Married—	
Both sexes	577
Males	483
Females	94
Widowers and Widows—	
Both sexes	91
Males	39
Females	52
Grand Total—	
Both sexes	853
Males	670
Females	183

Table No. VI.

Statement showing the Civil Condition, Age, and Religion of the Population.

Religion.	Single.											
	0—9.		10—14.		15—19.		20—24.		25—29.		30—39.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
All Religions	25	30	17	5	25	.....	30	.....	26	1	20	1
Hindus	16	23	12	2	16	.....	22	.....	20	.....	16	1
Mahomedans	5	3	3	.....	8	.....	7	.....	6	.....	4	.....
Christians	4	4	2	3	1	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....

Religion.	Single—*contd.*									
	40—49.		50—59.		60 and upwards.		Unspecified.		Total.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
All Religions	3	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	148	37
Hindus	1	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	105	26
Mahomedans	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35	3
Christians	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	8

Religion.	Married.											
	0—9.		10—14.		15—19.		20—24.		25 - 29.		30—39.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35
All Religions	.....	3	.....	5	19	20	54	20	92	13	170	26
Hindus	.....	1	.....	3	16	18	35	18	72	10	126	17
Mahomedans	.....	2	.....	2	3	2	19	2	20	2	44	7
Christians	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	2

TABLE No. VI—*concluded.*

Statement showing the Civil Condition, Age and Religion of the Population—concluded.

RELIGION.	MARRIED—*contd.*									
	40—49.		50—59.		60 and upwards.		Unspecified.		Total.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
All Religions	99	7	35	.....	14	.....	.....	.....	483	94
Hindus	67	5	22	.....	11	.....	.....	.....	349	72
Mahomedans	29	1	12	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	130	18
Christians	3	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	4

RELIGION.	WIDOWERS AND WIDOWS.											
	0—9.		10—14.		15—19.		20—24.		25—29.		30—39.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57
All Religions...	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	2	3	10	8	12	12	12
Hindus	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	10	6	12	9	11
Mahomedans	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	2	.....	3	1
Christians	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

RELIGION.	WIDOWERS AND WIDOWS—*contd.*										GRAND TOTAL.		
	40—49.		50—59.		60 and upwards.		Unspecified.		Total.				
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
All Religions	9	12	.....	1	7	2	.....	.....	39	52	670	183	853
Hindus	8	10	.....	.....	7	2	.....	.....	32	47	486	145	631
Mahomedans	.....	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	5	171	26	197
Christians	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	13	12	25

TABLE VII.

Statement showing the Age of the Population by Religion.

RELIGION.	UNDER ONE YEAR.		1.		2.		3.		4.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All Religions	1	7	2	3	3	3	5	1	1	3
Hindus	1	6	2	3	2	2	4	1	.....	3
Mahomedans	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....
Christians	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....

RELIGION.	5—9.		10—14.		15—19.		20—24.		25—29.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
All Religions	13	16	17	11	44	22	87	30	126	26
Hindus	7	9	12	5	32	20	59	28	98	22
Mahomedans	3	4	3	3	11	2	27	2	28	2
Christians	3	3	2	3	1	.....	1	.....	.....	2

RELIGION.	30—34.		35—39.		40—44.		45—49.		50—54.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
All Religions	110	22	92	17	76	17	35	2	31	1
Hindus	72	17	79	12	50	13	26	2	20	.....
Mahomedans	38	4	13	4	24	3	7	.....	11	1
Christians	.....	1	.....	1	2	1	2	.....	.....	.....

RELIGION.	55—59.		60 AND UPWARDS.		UNSPECIFIED.		TOTAL OF ALL AGES.		
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.
	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
All Religions	5	.....	23	2	.....	.....	670	183	*853*
Hindus	3	.....	19	2	.....	.....	486	145	*631*
Mahomedans	1	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	171	26	*197*
Christians	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13	12	*25*

Table VIII.

Statement showing the Number of the Hindu Population in each Caste.

Name of Caste.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
1	2	3	4
Brahmin	37	10	47
Rajput	14	2	16
Bagdi	80	30	110
Bania	2	.....	2
Bauri	32	22	54
Boedya	1	.....	1
Boisnab	2	2	4
Chamar	12	7	19
Chundal	7	3	10
Chuttar	2	.....	2
Dhobi	3	.....	3
Dhangar	2	.....	2
Dome	1	4	5
Doshad	4	1	5
Dulia	31	15	46
Gowalla	25	5	30
Hari	1	.....	1
Jugi	7	.....	7
Jelia	8	.....	8
Kahar	13	.....	13
Kawara	8	6	14
Kyesta	4	4	8
Koeri	3	.....	3
Koiburtha	19	2	21
Kurmi	14	1	15
Mudack	4	.....	4
Mehter	1	1	2
Napit	5	2	7
Pod ...	1	.....	1
Sunri	4	.....	4
Surnakar	1	.....	1
Tanti	4	1	5
Teli	2	.....	2
Teor	3	.....	3
Uriya	23	.....	23
Unspecified	106	27	133
Total ...	486	145	631

Table IX.

Statement showing the Distribution of the Population according to Language.

Name of Mother-tongue.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
1	2	3	4
Bengali	459	153	612
Hindustani	172	20	192
Uriya	28	.....	28
English	10	8	18
Armenian	1	2	3
Grand Total ...	670	183	853

Tables X and XI.

Statement showing the Distribution of the Population according to Birthplace.

Born in Bengal.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
1	2	3	4
Hooghly	69	38	*107*
Burdwan	82	23	*105*
Beerbhoom	1	2	*3*
Bankoorah	75	32	*107*
Bhaugulpore	2	.....	*2*
Backergunge	1	.....	*1*
Cuttack	22	.....	*22*
Dacca	15	.....	*15*
Furreedpore	.....	1	*1*
Gya	10	1	*11*
Hazaribagh	9	.....	*9*
Howrah	3	.....	*3*
Jessore	14	.....	*14*
Mozufferpore	23	.....	*23*
Monghyr	24	3	*27*
Moorshedabad	6	3	*9*
Midnapore	1	1	*2*
Nuddea	50	1	*51*
Shahabad	9	1	*10*
Sarun	14	8	*22*
24-Pergunnahs	22	16	*38*
Patna	2	2	*4*
Pubna	4	.....	*4*
Purneah	6	.....	*6*
Unspecified	129	44	*173*
Total born in Bengal ...	*593*	*176*	*769*

Born elsewhere.	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
1	2	3	4
Assam	8	.....	*8*
Central Provinces	2	.....	*2*
Madras	2	3	*5*
North-Western Provinces	47	4	*51*
Rajputana States	8	.....	*8*
Punjab	1	.....	*1*
Afghanistan	5	.....	*5*
Germany	2	...	*2*
Italy	1	.....	*1*
At sea	1	.....	*1*
Total	*77*	*7*	*84*
Grand Total ...	670	183	853

TABLE XII.

Statement showing the Occupations of the Male Population by Religion.

NAME OF OCCUPATION.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.	Others.	TOTAL.
Agent	2	.....	.....	2
Blacksmith	4	.....	.....	4
Bricklayer	35	5	.....	40
Bone-dealer	2	.....	.....	2
Boatman	53	42	.....	95
Bearer	10	.....	.....	10
Beggar	5	2	.....	7
Baker	4	.....	.....	4
Barber	3	.....	.....	3
Cochman	2	12	.....	14
Cooly	66	2	.....	68
Cloth-merchant	7	5	.....	12
Cart-dealer	1	.....	.....	1
Cultivator	19	14	.....	33
Carpenter	1	.....	.....	1
Cobbler	6	.....	.....	6
Clerk	2	.....	1	3
Confectioner	5	2	.....	7
Cook	2	.....	.....	2
Day-labourer	46	3	.....	49
Door-keeper	14	.....	.....	14
Fireman	.....	4	.....	4
Fishmonger	6	.....	.....	6
Gunja-seller	1	.....	.....	1
Grass-cutter	10	3	.....	13
Grain-parcher	3	.....	.....	3
Groom	3	16	.....	19
Goldsmith	6	.....	.....	6
Liquor-merchant	4	.....	.....	4
Milk-seller	1	.....	.....	1
Merchant	2	1	.....	3
Mali (gardener)	22	1	.....	23
Mehter	3	.....	1	4
Paik	.....	2	.....	2
Pensioner	1	.....	.....	1
Personal servant	2	.....	.....	2
Physician	1	.....	.....	1
Pomegranate-seller	.....	1	.....	1
Priest	4	.....	1	5
Prisoner, convicted	14	4	.....	18
Rajmistree	4	5	.....	9
Sawyer	6	.....	.....	6
Straw-dealer	1	1	.....	2
Service (not further specified)	30	2	.....	32
Shop-keeper	4	.....	.....	4
Thatcher	8	.....	.....	8
Tailor	.....	1	.....	1
Teacher	2	.....	.....	2
Tehsildar	1	.....	.....	1
Wood-cutter	1	1	.....	2
Weaver	11	.....	.....	11
Washerman	3	.....	.....	3
Water-carrier	1	7	.....	8
Unspecified	42	35	10	87
GRAND TOTAL ...	486	171	13	670

TABLE XII—*concluded.*

Statement showing the Occupations of the Female Population by Religion.

NAME OF OCCUPATION.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.	Others.	TOTAL.
Ayas	1	.....	.....	*1*
Cloth-dealer	2	.....	.....	*2*
Cook	1	.....	.....	*1*
Cooly	30	5	.....	*35*
Daily labourer	16	3	.....	*19*
Fishmonger	6	.....	.....	*6*
Match-maker	1	.....	.....	*1*
Mehter	2	.....	1	*3*
Personal servant	10	.....	.....	*10*
Prisoner, convict	1	.....	.....	*1*
Shop-keeper	1	.....	.....	*1*
Weaver	8	.....	.....	*8*
Wood-cutter	1	.....	.....	*1*
Unspecified	65	18	11	*94*
TOTAL ...	*145*	*26*	*12*	*183*

TABLE No. XIII.

Statement showing the Distribution of the Population according to Education and Religion.

ALL RELIGIONS—	
MALES—	
Under instruction	8
Not under instruction—	
Can read and write	69
Cannot read and write	593
Total	670
FEMALES—	
Under instruction	5
Not under instruction—	
Can read and write	7
Cannot read and write	171
Total	183
HINDUS—	
MALES—	
Under instruction	6
Not under instruction—	
Can read and write	54
Cannot read and write	426
Total	486
FEMALES—	
Under instruction	0
Not under instruction—	
Can read and write	4
Cannot read and write	141
Total	145
MAHOMEDANS—	
MALES—	
Under instruction	0
Not under instruction—	
Can read and write	11
Cannot read and write	160
Total	171
FEMALES—	
Under instruction	0
Not under instruction—	
Can read and write	0
Cannot read and write	26
Total	26

CHRISTIANS—		
MALES—		
Under instruction		2
Not under instruction—		
Can read and write		4
Cannot read and write		7
Total		13
FEMALES—		
Under instruction		5
Not under instruction—		
Can read and write		3
Cannot read and write		4
Total		12

TABLE No. XIV.

Statement showing the Number of Persons of Unsound Mind by Religion and Age.

CHRISTIANS 20—29	Male		0
	Female		1
	Total	Male	0
		Female	1

TABLE No. XVI.

Statement showing the Number of Deafmutes by Religion and Age.

MAHOMEDANS 5—9	Male		1
	Female		0
	Total	Male	1
		Female	0

TABLE No. XVII.

Statement showing the Number of Lepers by Religion and Age.

HINDUS 15—19	Male		0
	Female		1
	Total	Male	0
		Female	1
Do. 40—49	Male		1
	Female		0
	Total	Male	1
		Female	0

PART VI.

SPECIMEN SCHEDULE IN ENGLISH, WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO ENUMERATORS.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING UP THIS FORM.

1. On the night of the 17th February 1881, beginning at or after 9 p.m., you will enter in this form all the persons belonging to your household. If there is not room for all in this form, another will be given you.

2. You must write very distinctly, in English, and in black ink.

3. By "*household*" you will understand all those persons who actually sleep in the house and compound on the night of the 17th February.

4. The first person entered in each house should be the head of the house, whether male or female. Visitors and others should be entered after the list of the permanent residents has been completed. You will not enter any persons absent on journeys or temporarily residing elsewhere.

5. *Column* 1.—In filling up this column you should enter a separate number for any female whose name is not given, as well as for each other member of the household.

6. *Column* 2.—Enter here the names of all males in full. Enter also the names of females, if given; but if there is any objection to telling the names of females, enter the word "*female*" in column 2, and fill in all other particulars as usual in the remaining columns.

7. *Column* 3.—Young boys and girls who may have been married should be entered as married, even though they may not have actually begun to live with their wives or husbands. A male or female whose first wife or husband has died should be entered as widower or widow, unless he or she has married again, in which case he or she is to be entered as married.

8. *Column* 4.—Enter the proper sex in all cases, whether or no you have written "*female*," instead of the name in column 2.

9. *Column* 5.—In the case of infants under one year of age enter the age in months, writing the word "*month*" after the number. In all other cases enter the number of years of age attained on the last birthday. If any person is unable to state his or her age precisely, do not leave column 5 blank, but fill it up with as much accuracy as you can from your own observation if the person is before you, or after enquiry from the other inmates of the house. You are forbidden to ask to see any female who is not voluntarily produced before you.

10. *Column* 6.—Here enter the main religious denominations to which each person belongs, as Hindu, Mahomedan, Christian, Sikh, Jain, Brahmo (or other religious division of Hindus not mentioned above), Buddhist, Jew, Parsi. Also enter the sect of the religion to which the person belongs. Hindus should be shown as of the sect to which they say they belong. In the case of Mussulmans state whether they are Shiahs, Sunnis, Wahabis, &c. Christians should be shown as members of the Church of England, Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, Baptists, Wesleyans, Armenians, as belonging to the Greek or Syrian rite. If a person does not belong to any of these denominations, enter him or her under the general head of "Others." Children should be entered as of the same religion as their father.

11. *Column* 7.—In the case of Hindus, here enter the caste, and also the subdivision of the caste, as Brahman, Kanaujiya, Rajput Pramara, Baniya Agarwala; Mussulmans should be described as Sayad, Shekh, Moghul, Pathan, &c.

12. *Column* 8.—"Mother-tongue" means the language ordinarily spoken in the household of each person's parents, whether or no it be that of the locality in which he or she is residing at the time of the census.

13. *Column* 9.—Here enter the name of the district where the person was born, and add the name of the province if he or she was not born in the province in which his or her name is recorded. If the person was born out of India, the country will be named: no further detail is needed.

14. *Column* 10.—The occupation of every male who is of age to do work should be entered, or, if he has no occupation, the source from which he chiefly derives his income, as "Pensioner." If he has several occupations, that one should be entered from which his income is principally derived. But if he combines agriculture with any other profession or trade, such as that of money-lender, carpenter, or smith, both occupations should be mentioned. Persons who are really engaged in agriculture should be shown as such, even though by caste they may be something else, as smiths, potters, fishermen, &c. Agriculturists should be described by terms indicating the nature of their connection with the land, such as proprietor, tenant, under-tenant, ploughman or herdsman employed all the year round, day-labourer, &c. General terms, such as servant, workman, shop-keeper, must be avoided: the particular service, or trade, or handicraft must be given. Women who follow the occupation of their husbands or their family, such as working in the fields, weaving, &c., should be shown as agriculturists, weavers, &c., like the husband or head of the house. Those who gain their livelihood by some special employment of their own, as grinders, spinners, grass-cutters, &c., should be shown as such. Those who are chiefly employed in domestic work, such as looking after the house and the children, cooking, &c., should have no entry made against them in this column. In every case the occupation must be expressed by the vernacular name by which it is known. Boys at school, girls, and small children should not be entered in this column. When persons are temporarily unemployed, you should enter their last or ordinary occupation.

15. *Column* 11.—Against those under instruction write (1): against those not under instruction, but able to read and write, enter (2): against those who cannot either read or write, or who can read but cannot write, or can sign their names but cannot read, write (3). Only those should be shown as able to read and write who can do both.

16. *Column* 12.—Enter as "lepers" only those who are afflicted with the true or eating leprosy (korhi or kushthi). Enter as "deaf-mutes" only those who have been both deaf and dumb from birth. Enter as "blind" only those who are blind of both eyes.

17. You are not to persist in inquiring the name of any female if there is any objection to giving it, or to ask any information not required for the purposes of the census, as, for instance, the amount of any person's income; but all persons are bound to give you such information as will enable you to fill up this form.

(Bengal Census Form 1.)

FORM OF PRIVATE SCHEDULE.

*District*_____ *Subdivision*_____ *Thannah*_____ *Circle No.* _____ (_____ *Circle Officer*) *Village*_____

(*No.*_____) _____ *Enumerator of Block No*_____.

HOUSE No._____.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Serial number of each inmate.	NAME.	Condition, *i.e.* whether married, unmarried, widow, or widower.	Sex.	Age last birthday.	RELIGION.		Mother-tongue.	* † § Place of birth.	¶Occupation of men; also of boys and females who may do work.	EDUCATION. 1. Under instruction. 2. Not under instruction but able to read and write. 3. Not under instruction and not able to read and write.	INFIRMITIES. 1. Unsound mind. 2. Deaf-mutes from birth. 3. Blind. 4. Lepers.
					Religion.	Caste, if Hindu; sect, if of other religion.					

* If a European British subject, add British subject.
† If of mixed European and Asiatic parentage, add Eurasian.

§ If a foreigner, state of what country.
¶ Boys at school, girls, small children, and women, who perform no regular work, should not be shown at all under column 10.

W. H.D'C.—Reg. No. 11038J.—1,070—10-5-83.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

STATISTICS.

CALCUTTA, THE 17TH NOVEMBER 1883.

RESOLUTION.

READ—

The Report on the Census of Bengal taken on the 17th February 1881, by J. A. Bourdillon, C.S.

Read also—

The Report on the Census of the Town and Suburbs of Calcutta, by H. Beverley, C.S.

The second complete census of the Province of Bengal was taken on the night of the 17th February 1881, rather more than nine years after the first census of 1872. The Report, which is now submitted by Mr. Bourdillon, gives an account of every stage of the operations, from the appointment of the Census Committee of July 1877 to the conclusion of the actual enumeration and the compilation of the returns. It contains in the form of 31 elaborate tabular statements the whole of the immense mass of statistical information that has been collected, together with careful and closely-reasoned dissertations on every point of interest which they disclose. As a contribution to the statistical history of this Province, it cannot fail to be of the highest value. It possesses marked literary excellence; while the wealth of information which it presents on every branch of the subject testifies to the high administrative ability, and to the industry and acumen of its author.

2. The second and third volumes of the Report respectively contain the twenty-one tables prescribed by the Supreme Government for use throughout the whole of India, and ten other subsidiary statements, of which some were prescribed for Bengal by the Census Commissioner, and some were prescribed by the Local Government. Volume I is divided into two parts. The first contains an account of the machinery by which the census was taken. The second is the report properly so-called, and contains the observations and deductions which Mr. Bourdillon proposes to make from a study of the statistical tables, and from a comparison of them with the census returns of other countries, and with those of the previous census of Bengal. To this part is attached an appendix containing copies of the more important circulars, forms, and instructions issued in connection with the census, details of expenditure, certain subsidiary tables, and other miscellaneous papers. Part I of the Report, which deals with the enumeration, compilation, and expenditure on account of the census, might perhaps have been dealt with in somewhat greater detail; but Mr. Bourdillon was doubtless apprehensive lest his report, already sufficiently voluminous, should be swollen to undue dimensions by the inclusion of matter not absolutely necessary, and the Lieutenant-Governor is not prepared to say that he has not exercised a wise discretion in confining the subjective portion of the report within the smallest possible compass.

3. The general lines on which the Census of Bengal was taken were laid down in this Government Circular No. 4, dated 6th February 1880. The duty of superintending the operations in each district was entrusted to the district officer. Each thanna was divided into a convenient number of circles varying in size according to local circumstances. Each circle was similarly subdivided into ten or more blocks. The officer in charge of each circle, known as the circle supervisor, was provided with a tracing of the district map supplied by the Boundary Commissioner, and a list of the survey villages within his circle. He then went carefully over the area under his charge, checking and comparing his list of villages upon the ground, entering all

new villages and hamlets which he found, including those cases where groups of houses surveyed as part of an existing village had since grown to be separate villages or tolahs with distinct names of their own, referring all such new villages and all distinct groups of houses to the survey mouzahs within which they were situated, noting where old villages had disappeared, and where changes of names had occurred, and generally taking care to produce a complete record of the state of things then existing. This being done, two registers were prepared for every thanna—one, Register A, giving the survey villages according to the Boundary Commissioner's list, and the other, Register B, giving the villages actually inhabited at the time according to the corrected records of the circle supervisors. The Deputy Superintendent speaks in the highest terms of the value of the comparison thus instituted. The Boundary Commissioner's lists are based on fiscal considerations, and deal with the units of the Land Revenue administration. They are not, and are not intended to be, a record of inhabited villages at the present time. They were found to differ widely from existing facts, and Mr. Bourdillon shows that the endeavours made to reconcile the discrepancies, and the minute enquiries to which they gave rise, were the means of bringing to light numbers of hamlets, small villages, and isolated groups of houses which might otherwise have escaped enumeration. Register B contains a complete record of the inhabited villages in existence in February 1881. At the next census this register, which has been carefully preserved, will be adopted, like the Boundary Commissioner's lists on the present occasion, as the standard to which the state of things then existing should be referred; and by this means the operations of 1891 will, it is hoped, be carried out with less difficulty and still greater accuracy than those of 1881.

4. The village lists having been prepared, and carefully checked according to existing circumstances, enumerators were appointed to each block. In November 1880 the census schedules, 10 millions in number, the form of which had been settled by the Government of India, were distributed. Each enumerator was then required to prepare a register showing each individual house comprised within his block, and to affix to each house a serial number. In the beginning of January 1881 a preliminary enumeration of the people was made, and the census schedules were filled in with the required particulars for all permanent residents of each block. During the interval that elapsed between the completion of this preliminary enumeration and the 17th February, the entries in the schedules were carefully checked by the supervising officers, and all possible errors were eliminated. Finally, on the night of the 17th February, each enumerator visited every house in his block, compared the state of things then found with the entries made at the preliminary enumeration, and made the necessary erasures, additions, or alterations as the circumstances required. In a few localities—the Sonthal Pergunnahs, the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and parts of Chota Nagpore, Julpigoree, and Darjeeling—it was impossible, for special reasons, to make the final check at night, and in these places it was made on the following morning. Special arrangements were also made for the enumeration of boats, both on inland waters and along the coasts; for the counting of the population on railways, both resident and travelling; for the census of persons in camp, collected at fairs, travelling by roads, or without a home; for the enumeration of cantonments; for jails, hospitals, and other public institutions; and for the census of the Sunderbuns. Special arrangements were also made for the census of the Town and Suburbs of Calcutta, which were placed under the charge of Mr. H. Beverley as Special Census Officer. Mr. Beverley, whose experience in the Bengal Census of 1872 and the Calcutta Census of 1876 rendered his services of exceptional value, has submitted a separate report dealing with the special features presented by the population of the metropolis. This report was noticed in the Resolution on the Administration of the Calcutta Municipality during 1881, and will be further referred to where necessary in the course of the present review. It is in every way worthy of Mr. Beverley's literary power and rare statistical capacity.

5. The schedules, when properly checked and arranged, were forwarded to the head-quarters of the districts to which they belonged, and were there rapidly examined and totalled. The rough total thus obtained showed the

population of the Province to be 68,850,747. When the detailed compilation had been carried out, it was found that the true figures for the population of the Province were 69,536,861, so that between the first and the corrected total there was a difference of 686,114 persons in favour of the latter.

6. The compilation of the returns was carried out in three large central offices, situated at Calcutta for Bengal, Dinapore for Behar and Chota Nagpore, and Cuttack for Orissa. This process was a most arduous and difficult task. The information contained in the original schedules was first abstracted into sets of forms, known as working registers, one set of seven registers for each village. The contents of these working registers were then tabulated in forms known as village tables, one set of seventeen for each thanna. In these village tables the unit was the village, and they contain in a compact form the fullest information concerning the population of every village in each district of Bengal. They have been carefully preserved, and are deposited at the head-quarters of the districts to which they belong. They constitute a source of information of the highest value to local officers for a great variety of purposes, a source which will not be available in any of the other provinces of India, in all of which, the Lieutenant-Governor understands, the village tables were destroyed when no longer required for the immediate purposes of the census. Finally, the totals of the village tables were compiled into the final forms prescribed by the Government of India, twenty-one in number. These tables, as already stated, are contained in Volume II of the report. The compilation was carried out by a vast army of clerks, whose numbers at one time reached the high figure of 4,462. The utmost care was exercised to secure absolute accuracy in the returns. Between each stage of the work an elaborate check was applied; every mistake was carefully sifted out and set right, after reference to the original schedules; and the most rigid precautions were adopted to prevent the possibility of any discrepancy between the several returns. The value of this check cannot, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks, be over-estimated. Its necessity was sufficiently established by the number of errors which it served to disclose and correct. Mr. Bourdillon thus records his opinion of the result:—"The result has been most satisfactory. A certain percentage of error is of course inseparable from every census compilation; but I believe that on the present occasion it is infinitesimal; that the figures in the village tables and final forms are an almost perfect reproduction of the facts recorded in the original schedules; that the time, labour, and money expended in checking has been far more than repaid by the accuracy and general accord of all the tables, and, unless the abstracting establishment elsewhere was more competent and less dishonest than it was in Bengal, I find it difficult to place very great confidence in the figures of any province where the checking was not equally minute."

7. So vast an undertaking as the census of nearly 70 millions of people was necessarily costly. The total expenditure incurred on the Census of Bengal was Rs. 8,55,647-5-11. Of this amount, Rs. 1,87,921 was expended on the preliminary operations, that is, in making preparations for the census and in carrying out the actual enumeration. The balance, which amounts to Rs. 6,67,725, represents the expenditure incurred in compiling the returns and publishing the Report and statements. The greater part of the preliminary expenditure, or rather more than a lakh of rupees, represents the cost of printing and paper. The greatness of this sum, and the enormous number of the forms used, serve in some measure to illustrate the magnitude of the undertaking. The number of forms used was—

Ordinary enumerators' schedules, in seven languages ..	9,434,500
Schedules for boat population	257,000
Other miscellaneous schedules	52,650
Boat tickets	484,000
Railway passengers' check-tickets	20,000
Appointment certificates for enumerators	319,000
Registers A and B	22,000
Total ..	10,589,150

8. The expenditure on the actual enumeration would have been considerably higher than it was, but for the fact that the census was for the most part taken by unpaid agency. Of the 14,015 supervisors and 192,382 enumerators who were employed upon the work, only 72 of the former and 1,323 of the latter were paid for their services. In Calcutta and the Suburbs, it was found impossible to secure the services of a sufficient number of men who would do the work gratuitously, while in the Chota Nagpore Division, and in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, the backward state of education compelled the importation of competent men from outside. The expenditure under this head amounted to Rs. 19,137, of which Rs. 10,375 was incurred in Calcutta and Rs. 8,761 in the mofussil. In some districts difficulty was experienced in obtaining the gratuitous services of competent enumerators, but it is hoped that at the next census much assistance will be rendered by the local authorities now in process of establishment.

9. Of the total expenditure incurred in the compilation of the returns no less than Rs. 5,45,713 is debitable to the head of Establishment. The corresponding expenditure in 1872 was only Rs. 84,184, or little more than one-seventh of the amount. The mofussil expenditure was nearly the same on both occasions, and it is therefore clear that the cause of the extra expenditure was the much greater detail required in the statements now prescribed. Almost the whole of the expenditure was incurred before the 31st March 1882, and forms a charge against the Imperial Government. The expenditure during the year 1882-83, which amounts to about Rs. 40,000, is debitable to the Provincial Revenues. After making some slight adjustments, the net cost of the census, excluding the contributions from Feudatory States, amounts to Rs. 8,47,298. Calculated on a population of 69,536,861 persons, this sum gives a rate of a little more than two pie a head, or rather more than five persons completely censused for one anna. The cost per 1,000 persons has been Rs. 12-2-2, and the Deputy Superintendent points out how favourably this compares with the expenditure in England, where the cost per 1,000 was £5-9-0 in 1841, £5-4-0 in 1851, £4-15-5 in 1861, and about £5-4-2 in 1871.

10. The demeanour of the people during the census operations was for the most part all that could be desired. In the less advanced parts of the Province some excitement prevailed, especially in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, where the superstitious fears of the people, fomented by interested agitators, led to some show of resistance to the civil authorities. The judicious arrangements made by the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. W. B. Oldham, however, reduced the opposition to a minimum, and on the arrival of a detachment of troops the disturbances immediately ceased. In the remoter parts of Pooree, also, some slight resistance was experienced. It was not to be expected that the objects of a census should be readily intelligible to the semi-civilized masses of the people, and in every part of the Province, even in the neighbourhood of the chief towns, the wildest rumours prevailed. It seems strange that the experience of the census of 1872 should not have sufficed to allay suspicion; but, singularly enough, the great majority of the country people do not appear to have retained any distinct recollection of the former census. One reason of this may have been the limited nature of the information then required. In 1872 the particulars required were for each person—

1. Age (divided into two periods, under or over 12 years).
2. Sex.
3. Religion or caste.
4. Race or tribe.
5. Occupation.
6. Infirmities.

In 1881 the enumerator's schedule contained columns for the following:—

1. Age (to be given as exactly as possible).
2. Sex.
3. Conjugal condition.
4. Religion.
5. Caste or sect.
6. Birthplace.
7. Mother-tongue.
8. Degree of education.
9. Occupation.
10. Infirmities.

The general attitude of the people was, however, submissive, and it was not found necessary to have recourse to the penal provisions of the Census Act in more than an insignificant number of cases. The Lieutenant-Governor considers that this result is highly creditable to the tact and care of the district officers and other officials who were employed in carrying out the details of the arrangements.

11. Mr. Bourdillon speaks with justifiable confidence of the remarkable advance made in the accuracy of the census operations. He says: "The census just taken is certainly much more correct than that of 1872, just as it is to be expected that the census of 1891 will be more accurate than that of 1881." Three principal causes are assigned for the improvement. These are the more careful scrutiny of the village lists, and the preparation of the village registers; the elaborate numbering of the houses; and the checking of the entries made at the preliminary enumeration. Each of these measures was adopted for the first time at the recent census, and there can be no question that all three, and especially the first, were of great efficacy in securing accuracy. There is, moreover, internal evidence in the figures themselves to show that it has actually been secured. "The figures on every subject accord very closely with the conclusions drawn by experienced observers from known facts. Wherever there has been any discrepancy, it has given way on closer inspection, or a probable and simple explanation has been found." These remarks, which are extracted from the Report, are understood by the Lieutenant-Governor to refer to the accuracy of the general enumeration, and, as such, they are not, in Mr. Rivers Thompson's opinion, open to question. There is reason to believe that in points of detail the information afforded by the returns is not in all respects reliable. Mr. Bourdillon has drawn attention to several such points. The line of life, as mapped out according to the recorded ages of the population, presents violent and unnatural variations which cannot be in accordance with the real facts. Some concealment of unmarried women of marriageable age has undoubtedly taken place; while the details of castes and occupations are in many cases open to doubt. These, however, are not errors which it was possible to avoid by better arrangements. They were due to the ignorance and inaccuracy of the people themselves, or, perhaps, in a few cases, of the enumerators. But in all the salient and important points which form the principal object of a census, the accuracy is remarkable, and the total amount of error that has crept in, while absolutely small, is relatively almost inappreciable, and does not sensibly detract from the accuracy of the general enumeration.

12. In the body of the Report Mr. Bourdillon has discussed with great fullness of detail and amplitude of illustration the numerous questions which present themselves on a consideration of the facts recorded in the tabular returns. Many of the conclusions which he has drawn appear to be sound and well supported by evidence. Some, however, must be regarded as at least open to question, and as it would be impossible within the limits of a Government Resolution to make any adequate review of the arguments on which they are based, or to give a satisfactory idea of their relative importance and probability, it does not seem advisable to enter upon any lengthened consideration of them. It will, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, be sufficient to give a brief account of the more important facts which the figures obtained at the recent census may be taken to have established, without dwelling much upon the more recondite propositions or those which must still be regarded as open to controversy.

13. The total area included within the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal is 193,198 square miles, of which 70,430 square miles belong to the Province of Bengal, 44,139 square miles to Behar, 26,966 square miles to Chota Nagpore, 9,053 square miles to Orissa, and 36,634 square miles to the various Feudatory States. The balance, which amounts to 5,976 square miles, represents the unsurveyed area of the Sunderbuns. The total population of this vast area as enumerated on the 17th February 1881 is 69,536,861, which does not fall far short of the population of France and the United Kingdom

added together. The following table shows the distribution of the population according to Divisions:—

Division and Province.	Population.	Percentage.
Burdwan Division	7,393,954	10·63
Presidency ditto	8,204,912	11·79
Rajshahye ditto	7,733,775	11·12
Dacca ditto	8,700,939	12·51
Chittagong ditto	3,574,048	5·13
Total of Bengal ..	35,607,628	51·20
Patna Division	15,063,944	21·66
Bhagulpore ditto	8,063,160	11·59
Total of Behar ..	23,127,104	33·25
Chota Nagpore	4,225,989	6·07
Orissa	3,730,735	5·36
All Bengal ..	66,691,456	95·90
Feudatory States	2,845,405	4·09
GRAND TOTAL ..	69,536,861	100

The most populous district is Mymensingh, which contains 3,051,966 inhabitants. Durbhunga comes next with 2,683,447, while seven other districts, Mozufferpore, Midnapore, Sarun, Gya, Dacca, Rungpore, and Nuddea, each contain a population exceeding two millions. Seven districts only contain less than three-quarters of a million inhabitants each. These are Bogra, Maldah, Howrah, Julpigoree, Singbhoom, Darjeeling, and the Chittagong Hill Tracts, the last-named of which closes the list with a total of 101,597. The average density of the population of the entire Province is 371·41 persons to the square mile. The density, as might be expected, varies enormously in different districts and in different parts of the same district. In Bengal Proper it is 505·57 persons to the square mile; in Behar 523·96; in Orissa 412·10; in Chota Nagpore 156·72; while in the Feudatory States it is only 77·67. The most densely populated rural district is Howrah, where the village density is 1,130 persons to the square mile. Mr. Bourdillon remarks that this "is a population which hardly answers the description of true rusticity, being composed in large part of the inhabitants of the crowded villages which cluster round the large mills and factories of the Howrah district, or line the river banks and form the outer fringe of the great Suburb of Howrah, though outside the pale of the Municipality." This is not quite correct. The whole of the river bank from Seebpore in the south to the northern boundary of the district is within municipal limits, and throughout the district the thanna average nowhere falls below 1,027. Next to Howrah in regard to density of rural population come Sarun with 843, Mozufferpore with 824, Durbhunga with 763, Hooghly with 737, and Dacca with 713. The most thickly-peopled rural area is that of the Moonsheegunge sub-division in Dacca, where the population averages 1,278 to the square mile and contains a Hindoo community of old traditions and high culture which has produced many of the most distinguished servants of Government. Apart from the urban population, 17 districts have a population of 500 or more to the square mile. Twenty-two districts, together with the Cooch Behar State, have a density of less than 500 and more than 200; while only six districts and the remainder of the Feudatory States have a density of less than 200.

14. The remarkable paucity of towns and large villages in Bengal has long been known, and is conspicuous in the present returns. The total urban population of the Province is only 3,664,229, which is less than the population of London alone. The percentage of urban to total population is only 5·26, the corresponding figures for England being 66·6, for France 31·06, and for the United States 22·5. Bengal contains eleven towns with upwards of 50,000 inhabitants, 22 towns with from 20,000 to 50,000 inhabitants, and 63 towns with from 10,000 to 20,000 inhabitants. The

population of Calcutta (433,219), together with the Suburbs (251,439) and Howrah (105,575), which are really a part of the metropolis, is 790,233, and exceeds that of any town in the United Kingdom except London. Next come Patna with 170,654 inhabitants, Dacca with 79,076, and Gya with 76,415. No other town in Bengal contains as many as 70,000 inhabitants. The number of villages with less than 5,000 inhabitants each is 264,523, with a total population of 65,558,430, the average population of a village being only 247·83. The boat population, under which term are included only those persons who were actually living in boats on the 17th February 1881, and not those who obtain their livelihood from the sea or rivers, was 309,336. The number of houses in Bengal is returned at 11,645,383, of which 11,036,774 were occupied and 608,609 unoccupied at the time of the census. This number gives an average of 6·30 persons to each occupied house, as against 5·75 at the census of 1872 in 10,903,435 houses. This average varies very little throughout the Province outside the limits of Calcutta, where it is 12·54. Special attention was given on the present occasion to the definition of a "house," and the Deputy Superintendent believes that a very high degree of uniformity was attained.

15. After deduction of the figures for the Province of Assam, which has since been formed into a separate administration, the population of Bengal, as ascertained at the census of 1872, was 62,705,718. The increase in 9 years would therefore appear to have been 6,831,143, or 10·89 per cent. The total population in 1881 was composed of 34,625,591 males and 34,911,270 females, the excess of the latter being 285,679. In 1872 this excess amounted to only 22,986. The recorded increase has been at the rate of 10·47 per cent. among males, and at the rate of 11·30 per cent. among females. Part of the total increase is clearly due to omissions and defects in the former census. This is proved by the enormous apparent increase which has taken place in the more thinly populated parts of the Province, an increase which, if real, "implies a fertility of which the human race has hitherto not been considered capable, or an immigration which has no parallel except in the history of Californian townships." Thus, the recorded increase is at the rate in the Chota Nagpore Division of 34·26 per cent.; in the Feudatory States of 28·06; in Darjeeling of 63·84; in Julpigoree of 38·90; and in the Chittagong Hill Tracts of 45·95. In none of these areas is the proportion of children under 10 years of age remarkably above the average, and it is known that (with the exception of Darjeeling and Julpigoree) none of them are replenished by immigration. This conclusion is corroborated by the careful census which was made of parts of the Durbhunga and Mozufferpore districts immediately after the famine of 1874 and about two years after the previous census. The enumeration was most carefully made, and resulted in an apparent increase which was a physical impossibility within the time. A great part of the recorded increase, however, is undoubtedly real. The district of Backergunge, in spite of the cyclone of 1876 and the epidemic of cholera in the cold-weather of 1876-77, shows a small increase. One Division only, that of Burdwan, shows an absolute decrease, the numbers having fallen from 7,604,661 in 1872 to 7,393,954 in 1881, or by 2·77 per cent. This decrease, which is shared by all the districts of the Division, except Howrah and Bankoorah, is clearly attributable to the effects of the Burdwan fever, the ravages of which from 1864 to 1874 are well known. Strangely enough, the district of Nuddea, which has of late years earned for itself an unenviable reputation for fever, shows an increase of 11·31 per cent., which is above the provincial average. The Deputy Superintendent is driven to infer that in this district the census of 1872 cannot have been taken so well as was supposed at the time. The town of Calcutta shows a trifling increase of 3,684 over the figures of 1876, and the Suburbs a decrease of 5,710. This result has been discussed at length by Mr. Beverley, and has been already commented on in the Resolution on the Calcutta Municipality for 1881.

16. Mr. Bourdillon has entered at some length into the subject of the registration of vital statistics in Bengal, and has sought to deduce from a consideration of the census returns, and other established facts, an approximate standard rate of births and deaths. That the recorded numbers of births and deaths in this Province are far beneath the true figures has always been recognized, but the Lieutenant-Governor looks to a great improvement under the operation of the system of Union Committees, which is to be the basis

of the Local Self-Government scheme in Bengal. Meanwhile all that can be said with any confidence is that the average urban death-rate of 29·80 reported between 1872 and 1881 is certainly below the truth; that the true urban death-rate is probably higher than the true rural death-rate, though the difference is not so great as it is in countries where the conditions of town life are more complex; and that the general birth-rate is vastly understated at 21·26 per mille. Mr. Bourdillon estimates that the true birth-rate of the Province is about 45, and the true death-rate about 34 per mille, the latter varying from 36 or 37 in towns to 31 or 32 in rural tracts, and he calculates that at the census of 1891 the population of Bengal will somewhat exceed 77¼ millions. His conclusions, though interesting and instructive, are based on a variety of considerations, some of which are confessedly little more than conjectures. While others, proceeding as they do upon a comparison between the avowedly inaccurate figures of 1872 with the fairly accurate figures of 1881, must be to some extent unsound; and the Lieutenant-Governor does not think that any useful purpose would be served by subjecting them to detailed examination here.

17. The tables which deal with religious belief distribute the population of the Province among nine principal religions, as follows:—

Religion.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus ..	22,578,544	22,874,262	45,452,806
Sikhs ..	304	245	549
Mahomedans ..	10,855,771	10,848,953	21,704,724
Christians ..	67,715	60,420	128,135
Buddhists ..	78,555	77,254	155,809
Brahmos ..	470	318	788
Jains ..	1,174	435	1,609
Jews ..	514	545	1,059
Parsees ..	117	39	156
All others ..	1,042,427	1,048,799	2,091,226
Total ..	34,625,591	34,911,270	69,536,861

Subsidiary tables also show further details of which the figures under "All others" are made up, under five chief heads, thus—

Religion.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Sonthals	443,107	440,831	883,938
Kols	299,806	314,057	613,863
Other Western aborigines	236,378	233,244	469,622
Eastern aborigines ..	45,257	43,142	88,399
Others and unspecified ..	17,879	17,525	35,404
Total ..	1,042,427	1,048,799	2,091,226

In the census of 1872 great difficulty was experienced in defining the term "Hindu" with any approach to accuracy; and the same difficulty also presented itself in 1881, though in a somewhat smaller degree. The figures entered under the heads of Sikhs and Jains are manifestly incorrect, and appear to prove what was first suggested by an inspection of the original schedules, viz. that many members of these religions have returned themselves as Hindus, of the Sikh or Jain caste. Somewhat similar remarks apply to the figures for Brahmos also; while an inspection of the statements of Hindu castes shows large entries under the heads of Sonthal and Kol. It is probable, however, that no more correct returns could have been obtained without an enormously disproportionate expenditure of labour and money.

18. Of the entire population of the Province, 65·36 per cent. are Hindus, 31·21 per cent. are Mahomedans, ·18 per cent. are Christians, and ·22 per cent. are Buddhists; the followers of all other religions making up 3·01 of the whole.

The proportions of increase or decrease since the census of 1872 among the chief religions are—

Religion.	Increase + or decrease— Number.	Percentage.
Hindus	+5,456,231	+13·64
Mahomedans	+2,145,472	+10·96
Christians	+ 37,072	+40·71
Buddhists	+ 75,202	+93·29
All others	—244,154	—10·43

The increase shown under Mahomedans and Christians is considered to be real. That under Buddhists is almost wholly confined to the districts of Chittagong, the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and Darjeeling, and is for the most part due to more accurate enumeration. The decrease under "All others" may be attributed to the inclusion under Hindus of large numbers of persons who at the previous census had been shown as aborigines, this cause producing a corresponding apparent increase under Hindus. No change of importance has occurred in the distribution of any of these religions since 1872. Hindus form more than 90 per cent. of the population in Orissa, more than 80 per cent. in the Patna, Burdwan, and Bhagulpore Divisions, and more than 70 per cent. in Chota Nagpore and the Tributary States. They are least numerous in the Chittagong Division, where they form only 28·48 per cent. of the whole. The Mahomedans are most numerous in the Chittagong, Dacca, and Rajshahye Divisions, in each of which they are more than 60 per cent. of the whole, and are least numerous in Orissa, where they are only 2·29 per cent. The Patna and Bhagulpore Divisions together contain only one-seventh of the total number of Mahomedans. Of the total population of the Town and Suburbs of Calcutta, 428,692, or 62·6 per cent., are Hindus; 221,013, or 32·2 per cent., are Mahomedans; and 30,478, or 4·4 per cent., are Christians. Three sects of Mahomedans have been shown in the returns, viz. Sunnis 20,964,657, Shiahs 262,293, and Wahabis 2,144. The unspecified number as many as 448,679. The figures for Wahabis are clearly incorrect, and this is further corroborated by their distribution. They are almost entirely confined to Moorshedabad and Pubna; while Patna, which was long the centre of the Wahabi movement, numbers only 27 confessors.

19. The progress made in the spread of Christianity during the last nine years is one of the most interesting facts brought out by the census just taken. In 1872 the number of persons returned as Christians was 91,063, while by 1881 this number had increased to 128,135, showing an advance of 37,072, or 40·71 per cent. Mr. Bourdillon gives reasons for thinking that a large part of this increase is due to conversions from heathendom, rather than to immigration from Europe. This is doubtless the case in some parts, but Mr. Bourdillon has made some mistakes in regard to the figures, and he has overlooked some very important conclusions to which they point. He refers to a passage in Mr. Beverley's Report on the Census of 1872, in which he states that one-half of the total number of Christians were "Europeans or East Indians," and as there were, without Assam, 91,063 (not 91,603) Christians, Mr. Bourdillon places Mr. Beverley's estimate of non-Asiatic Christians at 46,000. He then refers to the number of non-Asiatic Christians found in 1881 (which was 40,686, not 40,726 as stated by him). He considers that there cannot have been such a decrease, and he therefore reduces the 1872 estimate of 46,000 for "Europeans and East Indians" to 39,000 for "Christians other than Natives of India." This would make the total number of Native Christians in 1872 to have been 52,063, and as there were 86,306 Christian "Natives of India" in 1881, there would be an increase in this class of 34,243. In reality, however, the case would arithmetically appear to be stronger even than Mr. Bourdillon puts it, because he has not sufficiently examined Mr. Beverley's figures. The observation made in the body of Mr. Beverley's report was qualified by a reference to the tables, and General Statement VB attached to the Report for 1872 shows that, outside Assam, there were 42,109 "Non-Asiatics" and "Mixed races," and 48,130 "Native Christians" It would thus appear that there has been an increase among the Native Christians of 38,176. There is, however, reason for doubting if the increase has been so large. Mr. Bourdillon disposes of the

figures for Europeans and Eurasians with the remark that "the number of European immigrants is certainly not less than it was, and everything tends to show that the Eurasian population multiply rapidly." The returns, however, call for further examination. Omitting the figures for Cooch Behar, which were not shown in the 1872 tables, we find that, whereas the number of Europeans shows an increase from 19,191 in 1872 to 24,189 in 1881, the number of Eurasians show a decrease from 20,195 to 14,702. The figures are—

	Europeans.		Eurasians.	
	1872.	1881.	1872.	1881.
Bengal	14,164	20,481	18,394	13,075
Behar	3,287	3,010	1,477	1,192
Orissa	239	428	271	270
Chota Nagpore... ...	1,501	270	53	165
Total ...	19,191	24,189	20,195	14,702

There can be no doubt that the number of Eurasians has not really decreased, and that the figures for Other races must include many of this class. Mr. Bourdillon seems to suggest that the prevailing tendency is to claim pure European parentage. A scrutiny of the figures, however, will show that this view cannot be maintained. The return of pure Europeans in the 24-Pergunnahs, the Suburbs, and Calcutta shows an increase from 11,107 to 17,383, and it is probable that this has been contributed in part by the incorrect inclusion of Eurasians. But this will go a very short way to explain the phenomenon, as the reduction in the number of Eurasians in this tract is only from 10,362 to 9,581. In Hooghly and Howrah an increase in the number of Europeans from 798 to 1,099 has been accompanied by an increase from 557 to 892 in the number of Eurasians. In Behar there is a simultaneous reduction in the numbers both of Eurasians and of Europeans. In Chota Nagpore the number of Europeans shows a falling off, probably due to the withdrawal of the European Regiment from Hazaribagh. It is in the figures for the Dacca and Chittagong districts that the true explanation is to be sought, and it will be seen that the circumstances which explain the falling off in the number of Eurasians explain also some of the apparent increase in the number of Native Christians. The Dacca district, which showed 5,638 Eurasians and 1,883, Native Christians in 1872, showed only 841 Eurasians, but 7,710 Native Christians in 1881. In Chittagong the Eurasians have apparently decreased from 896 to 99, while the Native Christians have apparently increased from 42 to 736. In these two districts the poorer classes of Eurasians differ little in their habits of life and association from the natives around them, and there can be no doubt that in the last returns the great majority of them have been shown as Native Christians. It is also probable that some of the poorer Eurasians in the 24-Pergunnahs, the Suburbs, and Calcutta have been similarly treated. Here, as has been already stated, there has been an apparent decrease of 781 under this class, while simultaneously there has been an increase of 1,775 under the head of Native Christians. It is thus very doubtful whether the apparent increase in the number of Native Christians from 27,446 in 1872 to 36,647 in 1881 represents any important increase in the number of conversions. It is only in the Sonthal Pergunnahs (2,718 against 180) and Chota Nagpore (39,832 against 14,226) that there is undoubted evidence of the spread of Christianity. The various sects of Christians have not been very carefully returned in the census schedules, and the numbers given under each are in many cases misleading. No less than 20,436 out of the total of 128,135 are entered as "Sect not stated." There is reason to believe that at least half of these are Lutherans of Lohardugga; but it is not possible to apportion the remainder among the different sects with any degree of accuracy.

20. The division of the persons who were not included among any of the nine chief religions into Sonthals, Kols, other Western Aborigines, Eastern Aborigines, and Others was made under the special orders of the Government of Bengal. The classification is not scientifically accurate, and is based on considerations of practical convenience. Besides those who have returned themselves as professing the Sonthal and Kol religions, there are a number

of others who have been shown as Hindus by religion and Sonthals and Kols by caste. These number respectively 203,264 and 257,803, and bring up the total numbers of these tribes to Sonthals 1,087,202 and Kols 871,666. Of the 469,622 persons who have been shown as Other Western Aborigines, the great bulk, or 362,561, were returned in the census schedules as Poithaliks, which is a vague term meaning "idolator," used by the Orissa enumerators to denote persons not belonging to the recognized religions. The Eastern Aborigines include Garos, Manipuris, Kukis, and other hillmen of the northern frontier, Meches and Assamese from the Assam Valley, and Tipperahs, Reangs, and other hillmen from the Chittagong and Tipperah hills.

21. The number of persons returned as single, married, and widowed is as follows:—

	Single.	Married.	Widowed.	Total.
Males	16,098,605	16,991,966	1,374,184	34,464,755
Females	10,331,811	17,040,095	7,397,647	34,769,553

And the percentages of each class among 100 of the population are—

	Single.	Married.	Widowed.
Males	46·71	49·30	3·98
Females	29·71	49·00	21·27

The corresponding percentages in the case of the United Kingdom and France are for males 61·95, 34·06, and 3·97, and for females 57·90, 33·00, and 9·08 respectively. These figures throw into high relief the marked difference that exists between the East and West in all questions of conjugal condition. In Bengal marriage is twice as common among females and half as common again among males as in Europe, while the number of widows is more than twice as great as in Europe. These figures "show that the people of Bengal, unchecked by any prudential considerations, marry their daughters at the earliest possible age, and, as a matter of course, that the discrepancy of age between husband and wife makes many widows, and that their re-marriage is virtually unknown."

22. An inspection of the tables which show conjugal condition in conjunction with age leads to many interesting conclusions. Out of every 100 boys below the age of ten years, rather less than four are married; while the number of married girls of the same age is 11. From 10 to 20 years of age 71 boys in 100 are still bachelors; while out of 100 girls of the same age, 76 are married and 4 are widows, only 19 being still unmarried. In the third decade the remarkable result is apparent that in every 100 women from 20 to 30 years of age there is *only one* who has not been given in marriage. Practically, it may be said that almost the whole female population is transferred from the single to the married state before their 20th year. Matrimony is not so common among the male population; men are married for the most part between the ages of 20 and 30, and the proportion of married men is greatest between the ages of 30 and 39, when it amounts to 90·23 per cent. of the whole. From this time the proportion of married men dwindles very gently, and the percentage of widowers approximates closely to that of European countries. Taking the earliest marriageable age to be 10 years, and excluding all persons below that age, we find that of the total number of bachelors of 10 years old and upwards 54·12 are between the ages of 10 and 15 years, and about 25 per cent. between 15 and 20 years; while of the unmarried women of marriageable age, 78·88 per cent. are under 15 years, and 10·71 per cent. below 20. These figures show that while the great majority of the girls marry before the age of 15, only one-fifth of the boys are married at that age, and only one-fifth are married before they are 20.

23. The numbers of the married in every 100 persons between 10 and 15 years of age in each of the chief religions are—

	Males.	Females.
Hindus	23·35	66·59
Mahomedans	9·90	68·59
Christians	4·19	14·87
Buddhists	3·16	23·03
Aboriginals	9·55	26·12
All religions ..	18·50	65·74

The practice of early marriage of boys is therefore far more prevalent among the Hindus than among members of any other religion; while both Hindus and Mahomedans marry their daughters at a very early age. Out of every 100 women of 20 to 30 years of age, 98·80 are or have been married, and of every 100 married or widowed women 30 years of age, 11·51 were married before they were ten years old, 69·25 between 10 and 20 years, and 18·04 between 20 and 30 years of age. Of the men under 40 years of age who either are or have been married, only 3·91 per cent. were married before they were 10 years old, 24·62 per cent. between 10 and 20, 50·50 per cent. between 20 and 30, and 15·96 per cent. at the comparatively mature age of between 30 and 40. The mean age of married males in Bengal is 36·97 years, and the mean age of married females 28·68. Each husband is therefore on an average eight years older than his wife. This circumstance helps to account for the comparatively large proportion borne by males to females in the total population. The average difference of age in England between husband and wife is only about $2\frac{1}{2}$ years. The mean duration of married life is not widely different in Bengal from that found to exist in Europe, being 15·77 years against 15·15. The total number of married men in Bengal is 16,991,966, while the number of married women is about 50,000 greater. This gives a proportion of 1,002 wives to every 1,000 husbands, which is a margin much too small to justify any theory of general or widespread polygamy. Among Hindus there is actually an excess in favour of the married men, which is due to immigration of married males. Among Mahomedans the proportion is 1,033 wives to every 1,000 husbands. A considerable part of this excess is due to the fact that in the districts of Eastern Bengal, where the Mahomedans form a large majority of the population, numbers of sailors, who are all of this religion, were absent on their avocations on the night of the census. This excess is particularly observable in the returns of Chittagong (1,266), Noakholly (1,081), and Dacca (1,079), all of which supply men to the mercantile marine. Mr. Bourdillon infers that polygamy, though existent, is practised only to a very small extent by the Mussulman population of Bengal.

24. A curious feature of the returns is the progressive *increase* in the number of children living at each of the first four years of life. The number of infants under one year of age was 1,611,449; the number returned as one year old was 1,679,504; two years old, 2,130,034; three years old, 2,548,457; and four years old, 2,220,142. The causes assigned for this are—first, the exceptional healthiness and general prosperity of the years 1876 and 1877; and, second, the ignorance and inaccuracy of natives in all matters connected with their ages, which have led them in numbers of cases to declare the age of very young children to be "three or four years." The Lieutenant-Governor regards the latter of these as the more probable explanation, though the first-named may also have had some influence. Another noticeable point is the strange fluctuations in the numbers for each quinquennial age-period after the first four years of life. It appears that the age-period 25—29, which contains the popular age 25, is abnormally large, and that for the rest each period which contains a round number, such as 40—44, 50—54, &c., is, contrary to expectation, more numerous than the period which immediately precedes it. The explanation is unquestionably to be found in the well known inaccuracy with which ages are always stated by natives. Similar variations are to be found in the returns of all the provinces of India.

25. Mr. Bourdillon conclusively shows that the figures for the age-periods from 5 to 9 and 10 to 14 are not reliable. This is established by a comparison of the proportions of males to females at those two age-periods with the corresponding proportions at other periods of life. It appears that while the females exceed the males in each year of life up to 4, the proportion is suddenly and violently reversed in the age-periods from 5 to 9 and 10 to 14. Among children below 5 years of age, there are on an average 93·91 boys to 100 girls; but in the next two quinquennial periods this proportion rises to 106·66 and 125·28 respectively, falling again to its normal rate of 98·06 in the period from 15 to 19. The reason of the change is that these two periods include the five years from 8 to 13, during which almost all native girls are given in marriage. The presence in a family of unmarried girls of marriageable age is regarded as a disgrace,

and has, in Bengal, as in other Provinces and at other censuses, occasioned both some concealment of women and some under-statement of their ages. Mr. Bourdillon is of opinion that the omissions amount to about 3 per cent. of the total number of females under 15 years of age. The mean age of the population of Bengal is 24·99, that of males being 24·49 years and of females 25·49. The mean age in England is 26·4 years, and the cause of the lower mean in this Province is to be found in the high birth and death rates which prevail in Bengal.

26. The question of caste has been very briefly dealt with in the Report, Mr. Bourdillon being rightly of opinion that it did not come within the proper domain of his work to attempt any exhaustive treatment of so large a subject, the interest of which was, moreover, rather ethnological than statistical. In connection with an admirable system proposed by Mr. Ibbetson, who has conducted the Punjab census, the Lieutenant-Governor contemplates the institution of a series of detailed and comprehensive enquiries into this interesting and important subject, which has not yet found any adequate exponent in Bengal.

27. According to the census returns, 65 castes or tribes have upwards of 100,000 representatives in this Province. The Gowalla or cowherd caste heads the list with 3,992,949 members, including the Gops of Bengal, the Ahirs of Behar, and the Gours of Orissa; next come the Brahmins, with 2,754,100, and the Kaibarthas with 2,100,379. Koches and Chandals each number more than a million-and-a-half; while eight more castes, the Kayasths, Rajputs, Chamars, Telis, Kurmis, Koeris, Dosadhs, and Babhans, in the order named, each claim upwards of one million members. Besides these more numerous castes, no less than 265 smaller ones are shown in the tables, in addition to several so-called castes and clans of doubtful position. The heading "Others" includes many persons who have described themselves by nationality only, as Bengali, Punjabi, &c., and others who have given the name of their occupation in lieu of their caste, such as Sikalgar, Dafali, and Shikari. Thirty castes, including all those of general utility, "whose services are indispensable to that microcosm the Bengal village," have representatives in every division of the Province. Many others, however, are extremely local, some of them having more than 60 per cent. of their whole number within the limits of a single division. Thus the large majority of Bhumijs, Kharwars, Sonthals and Kols (so-called) are to be found in Chota Nagpore. Orissa has almost a monopoly of Chassas, Kandaras, Karans, Khandaits and Pans. Rajputs, Babhans, Chamars, Dosadhs, Binds, Nuniyas, and Gareris are chiefly concentrated in Behar; while of Koches, Pods, Bagdis, and Sadgops but few are found outside Bengal Proper. The relative proportion of males and females in the various castes, to which a high degree of importance attaches in provinces where female infanticide or polyandry is suspected to exist, is of little practical interest in Bengal. It is, however, of some significance that the proportion of males to females is lowest among such castes as the Rajputs, Brahmins, and Babhans, who are most sensitive on the subject of their women; who marry their daughters at an exceptionally early age, and who should therefore show a high proportion of males; and upon whom the suspicion of withholding information rests most heavily.

28. Among the points upon which information was required for the first time at the recent census were statistics of birth-place and mother-tongue. It was at one time thought that information as to nationality could be gathered with great accuracy by an inspection of the recorded entries for birth-place and language combined, together with the evidence afforded by the names of individuals. In practice, however, this was found to be impracticable, and the main use to which the information has been put is to illustrate the conditions of immigration and emigration in Bengal. For this purpose, however, the returns are, as Mr. Bourdillon points out, incomplete. In the first place, they cannot of necessity include persons who had emigrated from Bengal and were found in other parts of India on the night of the census. These persons appear in the returns of other provinces, which give no details of the districts from which strangers come. In the second place no information is to be gathered from the returns as to those internal movements

of the people which are of a temporary or periodical character. The subjects of immigration and emigration are, therefore, illustrated in an imperfect way by the Census Tables, which accordingly lose a great part of their interest.

29. Out of the 69,536,861 persons found in Bengal on the night of the census, only 790,777, or 1·14 per cent., had been born outside the Province. Of these, 487,059 had been born in other Provinces of British India, 93,110 in the remainder of Asia, and 12,298 in Europe. The birth-places of 197,485 persons were not traceable. Mr. Bourdillon observes that "there is probably no country in the world whence emigration is so scanty, and in which the persons born outside its limits bear so small a proportion to the whole body of its inhabitants." Of the 93,110 immigrants from other parts of Asia, 85,011 are natives of Nepal, and the great bulk of the remainder are from Bhutan, Thibet, and Sikkim. The majority of these are found on the tea-plantations of Darjeeling and Julpigoree, and in Chumparun. Of the immigrants from other Provinces of India, the North-Western Provinces claims 351,933, or over three-fourths of the whole, the males and females numbering respectively 214,498 and 137,435. The greater part of the remainder are from Assam and the Central Provinces. The total number of Bengal-born persons found in the other chief Provinces of India on the night of the census was 615,286, of whom 328,312 were males and 286,974 females. Of these, 76,909 males and 136,720 females were found in the North-Western Provinces, 126,856 males and 94,400 females in Assam, and 79,746 males and 23,115 females in British Burmah. Mr. Bourdillon infers from the equality in numbers of the Bengal women received from and sent into the North-Western Provinces that these transfers are mostly due to inter-marriages among the people of the border districts. The absence of district details renders it impossible to establish this proposition, which seems intrinsically probable, and which affords a simple explanation of the singular fact that women appear to leave the districts of their birth much more than men. Among the Provinces of Bengal, the Feudatory States have the highest proportion of immigrants, who amount to 17·97 per cent. Bengal comes next with 5·91, owing principally to the influences of Calcutta and Darjeeling. Chota Nagpore has a percentage of 3·27, Behar of 1·63, and Orissa of 1·52. The highest percentage of foreigners is naturally found in Calcutta, where they amount to no less than 70·25 per cent. of the whole population of the town. The figures for emigration from the several districts and Provinces would have been instructive, but, unfortunately, no district details are available for emigrants beyond the limits of Bengal itself, without which the figures would be useless.

30. Of the various languages recorded in the census schedules, it appears that Bengali is the mother-tongue of 36,416,970 persons, or more than half the entire population of the Province. Hindi, Hindustani, and Urdu are spoken by 24,799,081, or 35·65 per cent., and Uriya by 5,450,818, or 7·83 per cent. The Kolarian languages, Sonthali, Kol, Munda, and Bheel, have been shown as spoken by 2,149,133 people; while English is stated to be the mother-tongue of 37,640 persons.

31. The poverty of the results of the attempt to collect information concerning the occupations of the people is one of the least satisfactory features of the recent census. The importance of the subject in all its bearings on the social condition and physical and moral progress of the people can hardly be overrated; yet it would scarcely be too much to say that the statistics compiled in 1881 have not made any addition to the knowledge obtained in 1872. No expenditure of time and trouble was spared by the Bengal census officers, and Mr. Bourdillon considers that at least one-third of the total cost of preparing the census tables must be debited to this single subject; and it is therefore the more disappointing to find so inadequate a result. The returns, in fact, so far as their details are concerned, appear to be of little or no value. The causes of this unfortunate state of things appear to be two. The first and most important is the enormous difficulty that was experienced in securing definite entries in the original schedules. Special attention was given to the point in the instructions issued to the enumerators, but in spite of every effort the number of vague descriptions that were met with precluded the possibility of an accurate classification. Entries, such as "service," "shop-keeping," and the like, abounded on every page of the schedules, and

baffled every attempt at subdivision of occupations. Although it was the particular desire of the Census authorities and of Government that the different classes of cultivators should be separately shown, this object has been completely defeated by the return of 11,264,942 males, or 86 per cent. of the whole sub-order of agriculturists, as "cultivators" only without any further specification.

32. Even, however, had the entries in the original schedules been all that was desired, the value of the returns would have been greatly impaired by the system of classification under which it was necessary to show them. The classification which was adopted was based on that devised by Dr. Farr in the English Census of 1871. It divides all occupations into 6 classes—Professional, Domestic, Commercial, Agricultural, Industrial, and Indefinite and Non-productive. These classes are again subdivided into 18 Orders, 82 Sub-orders, and 487 Main heads. Every occupation entered in the schedules was required to be referred to one or other of these Main heads, and as these had been selected with a view to the circumstances of England, it is easy to see that they must in many cases have been very unsuitable to those of Bengal. Although, however, the paramount necessity of securing uniformity throughout India led the Government of India to give the preference to Dr. Farr's classification, an attempt has been made by Mr. Bourdillon in a subsidiary table to show the occupations of the Province arranged on a system more in accordance with local conditions. This table is intelligible and interesting, but it contains figures for the entire Province only, without showing district details.

33. The following table shows the distribution of the population of Bengal among the 6 principal classes :—

Occupations.	Males.	Females.
Class I—Professional	624,538	57,117
Class II—Domestic	943,015	245,525
Class III—Commercial	1,136,014	195,423
Class IV—Agricultural	13,332,557	1,957,675
Class V—Industrial	2,651,132	1,900,181
Class VI—Indefinite and Non-productive ..	15,830,331	30,466,119
Total ..	34,517,587	34,822,040

It thus appears that 66·76 per cent. of both sexes belong to the Indefinite and Non-productive Class. If from this proportion be deducted the percentage of children under 10 years of age, who are too young to work, and of persons over 60 years, who are too old, it appears that among those capable of active work, 21·24 per cent. of the men and 51·58 per cent. of the women are without specific employment. This percentage, however, in the case of women includes those who are employed upon domestic and household duties. This Class includes also the great body of general labourers, who form between 10 and 11 per cent. of the population. Of the remainder of the population, more than two-thirds is absorbed by the Agricultural Class, which comprises more than half of the persons capable of active work in each Division. It is most universal in the Rajshahye and Dacca Divisions, where the population is largely Mahomedan. It is least common, as might be expected, in the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions. "So universal is the pursuit of agricultural operations that even in the urban population they employ the greater proportion of individuals." Next come general labourers, servants and personal attendants, "persons who buy or sell, keep or lend money or goods of various kinds," "persons working and dealing in textile fabrics and dress," carriers and bearers, and "persons working and dealing in food and drink." Among the rural population, agriculture stands first, claiming more than five times as many followers as the next on the list, General labourers.

34. Among Hindus, 49·28 per cent. of the population capable of work are engaged in agriculture, 13 per cent. are unemployed (among whom must be counted the many Hindu scholars above 10 years of age), 11·40 per cent. are general labourers, while 5·54 per cent. are attendants and domestic servants. Among Mahomedans, on the other hand, the proportion of agriculturists reaches the high figure of 62·81 per cent. The Lieutenant-Governor cannot but think that one reason for this remarkable result, which is not referred to in the Report, is the absence of many Mahomedan sailors and boatmen from

their home on the night of the census. The members of this religion are also numerous among "persons engaged in the conveyance of men, animals, and goods," and among "persons engaged in breeding and keeping animals," and among weavers and manufacturers of textile fabrics. Of the whole female population of the Province, 83 per cent. have been returned as unemployed. The remainder are distributed among 288 separate occupations, only 42 of which claim more than 10,000 followers. Cultivators number 1,675,843, and general labourers 1,371,577. It is, however, impossible to say how far the women entered under these heads are really breadwinners themselves, and how far they are merely the wives of breadwinners. Nine other occupations claim more than 100,000 followers each; these are recorded as grain-huskers, thread-spinners, vagrants, cultivators (combining agriculture with some other occupation), maidservants, shop-keepers, agricultural labourers, fishmongers, and cotton-cloth weavers. The occupations of women are, however, even less trustworthy than those of men, and the Lieutenant-Governor does not think that the returns of either will repay minute examination.

35. An attempt to collect statistics of the spread of education was made for the first time in Bengal in the census of 1881. The whole population was classified under the following heads—

1. Under instruction;
2. Not under instruction, but able to read and write;
3. Ditto ditto, and not able to read and write;

and the numbers recorded in each class are as follows:—

Sex.	Under instruction.	Not under instruction.	
		Able to read and write.	Not able to read and write.
Males ..	1,009,999	1,991,583	31,480,486
Females ..	35,760	61,449	34,738,686
Total ..	1,045,759	2,053,032	66,171,663

Mr. Bourdillon believes that in Behar and Chota Nagpore, where the language of the schedules was Hindi or Urdu, some error may have crept in, and that some persons who should have been shown as learners in the first class have been brought into the educated or second class. The total amount of error is, however, considered to be trifling. It thus appears that taking both sexes together, out of every 1,000 persons in the Province only 15 are under instruction, and 29 more are able to read and write; while no less than 955 are altogether illiterate. Of males 912 in 1,000 are illiterate against 997 females. The Lieutenant-Governor regrets to observe that Bengal compares unfavourably with other Provinces of India with regard to education, and stands only fourth on the list, the Central Provinces being first, Madras second, and Bombay third. Excluding children below the school-going age, which may be taken to be 5 years, and omitting females among whom education in Bengal is almost non-existent, it appears that out of every 1,000 persons 34 are learning, 67 can read and write, and 898 are ignorant. Among Hindus these proportions become 38, 79, and 882 respectively, and among Mahomedans 28, 45, and 928. This demonstrates what was already known to be the case, that the standard of education is much higher among the Hindus than among Mussulmen. Judged by the census figures, education has made most progress in the Burdwan Division, where the number of wholly illiterate persons is 8,028 in 10,000. The Presidency and Chittagong Divisions come next, with 8,442 and 8,414 respectively. The lowest on the list are the Feudatory States, with 9,548, Chota Nagpore with 9,539, Bhagulpore with 9,486, and Patna with 9,383. The small progress of education in Behar which these figures indicate is much to be regretted. The educational standard is, as might have been expected, much higher among Christians than among any other class. Out of every 10,000 Christian men and boys 5 years old and upwards, only 5,245 are wholly illiterate, 3,464 are able to read and write, and 1,289 are under instruction. Favourable as these proportions are when compared with those of Hindus and Mahomedans, they nevertheless indicate the existence of much ignorance among the Native Christians in spite of the efforts of Mission schools. If the proportion of persons of school-going

age be taken to be 15 per cent. of the whole, as is usually done in European countries, it appears that out of every 100 boys in Bengal who might be at school, only about 20 are actually under instruction. In the different Provinces the numbers are, Bengal 26·54, Behar 10·55, Orissa 27·20, Chota Nagpore 9·03, and the Feudatory States 8·30. In Madras the percentage rises to 22·47 and in Bombay to 21·65. In the Punjab, however, which stands next to Bengal, it is only 9·45, in the Central Provinces 8·79, and in the North-Western Provinces 8·65. In the United Kingdom the corresponding proportion is as high as 86·36 per cent. Even more deplorable is the condition of female education, and no words can add force to the following extract from the Report:—"In every 10,000 Hindu women and girls only 9 are at school, and only 16 can read and write, leaving 9,975 who are entirely illiterate. The condition of the Mahomedan female population, however, is worse, for in every 10,000 of them only 7 are learning and 10 can read and write; so that 9,983 have no learning whatever." This is not the place for an examination of the general educational policy of the State; but it may be mentioned that no effort is being spared by this Government to promote the advance of primary education, and that the grant for primary schools has been increased by a lakh of rupees in each of the past three years, and now stands at Rs. 7,00,000. The Director of Public Instruction bears evidence to the good results which have begun to declare themselves, and which may still be anticipated. "Throughout Orissa, and in the Burdwan and Chittagong Divisions, the system has expanded with extraordinary rapidity, and the number of pupils in primary schools of organized instruction varies in these Divisions from 25 to 29½ per 1,000 of the population. In the Presidency and Dacca Divisions the proportion of pupils to population falls to 13 and 10 per 1,000; but in both Divisions, and especially the latter, a further great extension of the system may be looked for."

36. The following table shows the number of persons who were found to be afflicted with each of the four great bodily and mental infirmities:—

Infirmities.	Numbers.			Proportion in 10,000.		
	Males.	Females.	Both sexes.	Males.	Females.	Both sexes.
Insane	18,336	12,399	30,735	5	3	4
Blind	47,086	50,264	97,350	13	14	14
Deaf-mutes	52,833	32,662	85,495	15	9	12
Lepers	42,283	14,240	56,523	12	4	8
Total ...	160,538	109,565	270,103	45	30	38

The proportion of the insane in Bengal is very small compared with that found in most European countries, but is borne out by the returns of other Provinces of India. There is reason to believe that some concealment has taken place in the case of each of the above infirmities, except, perhaps, in that of blindness. On the other hand the proportion of deaf-mutes is abnormally high, and the Deputy Superintendent inclines to the opinion that the figures returned under this head include a certain proportion of persons who are deaf only. Insanity is most prevalent in the Rajshahye Division, where the population is largely Mahomedan, and where ganja and its preparations are produced and extensively consumed. Blindness appears to be most common in the Patna and Bhagulpore Divisions, and least prevalent in Chittagong and Dacca. No explanation of this is suggested in the Report, except that the districts of Behar, where vaccination has made but little progress, are most exposed to the ravages of small-pox. Deaf-mutism also is found most frequently in this Province, and is least common in Chittagong and Dacca. Leprosy, by which term only black leprosy, the more virulent form of the disease, is meant, is by far most common in the Burdwan Division, where lepers number as many as 19 per 10,000 of the population. This Division is followed at a long interval by Orissa, with a proportion of 12, and Rajshahye and the Feudatory States with 9 each. The affection is least common in Chittagong. There is no doubt that concealment of lepers has occurred to a very considerable extent, and Mr. Bourdillon believes that for every leper that has been returned there are at least three persons in whom the disease has been more or less fully developed, but who have escaped enumeration. The interest of the subject is medical rather than statistical.

37. The whole of the census operations of the Province, with the exception of the Town and Suburbs of Calcutta, were from first to last in charge of Mr. Bourdillon, to whom the Lieutenant-Governor's cordial thanks are due for the ability, energy and unflagging zeal with which, for upwards of three years, he has devoted himself to the execution of this great undertaking. Mr. Bourdillon bears conspicuous testimony to the valuable assistance rendered to him by Mr. E. N. Baker, now Under-Secretary to this Government, and Baboo Koomudnath Mookerjee, the Superintendent of the Cuttack Office. Mr. Rivers Thompson desires to place on record his high sense of the services rendered by the district officers of Bengal, without whose hearty co-operation and vigilance the swarming population of this great Province could not have been numbered with such signal success.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

COLMAN MACAULAY,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

W. LeB.—Reg. No. 9252C—1,250—22-11-83.

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on 07 August, 2017

REPORT

ON THE

CENSUS OF BENGAL,

1881.

BY

J. A. BOURDILLON

OF THE BENGAL CIVIL SERVICE,

Inspector-General of Registration, Bengal.

VOL. I.

Calcutta:

PRINTED AT THE BENGAL SECRETARIAT PRESS.

1883.